



THE BOARD of SUPERVISORS

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Second District



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Third District



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Fourth District



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**The Meeting Transcript of
The Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors**



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1 [GAVEL]

2

3 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IF WE CAN HAVE YOUR ATTENTION, WE'RE GOING
4 TO BEGIN THE MEETING. ALL RIGHT. WE'RE GOING TO CALL ON OUR
5 DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES, DR. TOM GARTHWAITE, TO GIVE US AN
6 OVERVIEW OF THE COUNTY'S RECOMMENDATION, AND THEN AFTER THAT
7 POINT, WE WILL BEGIN OUR PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND WE WILL GO
8 THROUGH THE GROUND RULES AT THAT PARTICULAR POINT FOR THE
9 TESTIMONY. MR. GARTHWAITE.

10

11 **DR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE:** THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. I WANT TO MAKE
12 SIX ASSURANCES TO THE COMMUNITY THAT LIVES HERE, THAT WORKS
13 HERE, AND TO THE PUBLIC AT LARGE REGARDING THE RECOMMENDATION
14 TO CLOSE TRAUMA AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. FIRST, THE
15 RESIDENTS OF THIS COMMUNITY WILL CONTINUE TO GET CARE AT THE
16 SAME LEVEL. FOR THE INDIVIDUALS WHO MAKE THE 47,000 VISITS PER
17 YEAR TO THE EMERGENCY AT KING, THINGS WILL NOT CHANGE. THE
18 EMERGENCY ROOM WILL REMAIN OPEN. IT WILL CONTINUE TO TREAT
19 PATIENTS FOR HEART ATTACKS, FOR ASTHMA, GALL STONES,
20 INFECTIONS, AND MINOR TRAUMAS, INCLUDING BROKEN BONES, CUTS,
21 AND EVEN SOME GUNSHOT WOUNDS. IN FACT, WITHOUT THE STRESS OF
22 THE TRAUMA PATIENTS THEIR WAITS MAY DECREASE. THOSE
23 INDIVIDUALS WHO MEET TRAUMA CRITERIA, THOSE SUFFERING FROM
24 GUNSHOT WOUNDS TO THE CHEST, TO THE ABDOMEN, A BLOW TO THE
25 HEAD THAT RESULTS IN A LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS, OR THE VICTIM OF



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1 A SERIOUS CAR ACCIDENT WILL BE TAKEN TO A TRAUMA CENTER IN A
2 HOSPITAL THAT IS NOT AS UNSTABLE AS KING IS TODAY.

3

4 **AUDIENCE:** (BOOING). [GAVEL CONTINUES]

5

6 **DR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE:** THE SECOND --

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** PLEASE!

9

10 **DR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE:** THE SECOND, CLOSING TRAUMA IS NECESSARY
11 AND IS BEING DONE TO SAVE THE HOSPITAL. THE RECOMMENDATION TO
12 CLOSE TRAUMA AT KING IS MADE TO IMPROVE PATIENT SAFETY AND NOT
13 TO SAVE MONEY. KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER MUST MEET THE
14 STANDARDS AND CONDITIONS IMPOSED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S
15 MEDICARE AND MEDICAID PROGRAMS AND BY THE JOINT COMMISSION ON
16 THE ACCREDITATION OF HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS, KNOWN AS
17 J.C.A.H.O. MULTIPLE INSPECTIONS BY THESE REGULATORS OVER THE
18 PAST THREE YEARS DEMONSTRATE THAT KING DREW DOES NOT
19 CONSISTENTLY MEET ENOUGH OF THESE STANDARDS. WHILE PROGRESS IS
20 BEING MADE IN ADHERING TO THESE STANDARDS, THE REGULATORS AND
21 WE AGREE THAT ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS MUST BE ACCOMPLISHED.
22 ADDITIONALLY, THE SEVERE SHORTAGE OF NURSES IN CRITICAL AREAS,
23 ESPECIALLY INTENSIVE CARE UNITS, MAKES IT DIFFICULT, IF NOT
24 IMPOSSIBLE, TO SIMULTANEOUSLY CARE FOR CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS
25 AND FIX ACCREDITATION ISSUES. WHILE YOU WILL HEAR MANY



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1 INDIVIDUALS ARGUE AGAINST CLOSING THE TRAUMA CENTER, YOU WILL
2 HEAR VERY FEW, IF ANY, ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS THAT WILL
3 DECOMPRESS THE HOSPITAL AND ALLOW IT TO RECOVER. YOU WILL NOW
4 ALSO NOT FIND ANYONE WILLING TO TAKE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY
5 FOR THE SAFETY OF TRAUMA PATIENTS TAKEN TO KING DREW AS THE
6 BOARD AND I ARE REQUIRED TO DO. THIRD, THERE IS NO INTENTION
7 TO CLOSE KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. HERE ARE SOME OF THE
8 EFFORTS THAT THE BOARD AND DEPARTMENT HAVE MADE TO FIX
9 PROBLEMS AT KING DREW AND TO KEEP KING DREW OPEN. TEAMS OF
10 DEPARTMENT MANAGERS HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO KING DREW FOR OVER A
11 YEAR TO FIX VARIOUS PROBLEMS. THE BOARD AUGMENTED KING DREW'S
12 BUDGET AND DELAYED ADDITIONAL EFFICIENCY REDUCTIONS. THE BOARD
13 HIRED THE CAMDEN GROUP TO PROVIDE NURSING LEADERSHIP AND
14 NURSING ASSESSMENTS. THE TELEMETRY UNIT WAS CLOSED, REBUILT
15 AND IS NOW REOPENED AS A MODEL OF WHAT MUST BE DONE THROUGHOUT
16 THE FACILITY. AN EXTENSIVE REMODELING OF THE FIRST OF SEVERAL
17 PSYCHIATRIC WARDS IS NEARING COMPLETION. THE DEPARTMENT
18 INVESTED \$5 MILLION IN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MEDICAL BUILDING --
19 THE MEDICAL CENTER BUILDING ITSELF. THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL
20 HEALTH SERVICES HAS EXTENDED THE HOURS OF THE PSYCH CLINIC TO
21 INCLUDE NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS TO RELIEVE STRESS ON THEIR
22 PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY ROOM. THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WOMAN'S
23 CENTER IS NEARING COMPLETION. THE BOARD APPROVED RATES TO
24 ALLOW KING DREW TO HIRE REGISTRY AND TRAVELING NURSES TO KEEP
25 BEDS OPEN. THE BOARD SIGNED A CONTRACT WITH THE CENTERS FOR



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1 MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES AND NAVIGANT CONSULTING TO
2 MAINTAIN PUBLIC FUNDING OF OVER \$200 MILLION. THE BOARD'S LAST
3 BEST FINAL NURSING CONTRACT OFFER TO THE UNION INCLUDES A 10%
4 PREMIUM FOR WORKING AT KING DREW SO IT CAN REBUILD THE NURSING
5 SERVICE AT KING. THE BOARD ENLISTED FORMER SURGEON GENERAL
6 DAVID SATCHER TO HEAD A TASK FORCE TO RECOMMEND IMPROVEMENTS
7 TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AND THE BOARD RENEWED HIS CONTRACT WITH
8 DREW UNIVERSITY FOR RESIDENCY TRAINING. THESE ARE NOT THE
9 ACTIONS OF A BOARD OR A DEPARTMENT INTERESTED IN CLOSING A
10 HOSPITAL; THESE ARE THE ACTIONS OF THOSE IN A POSITION OF
11 AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TRYING HARD TO FIX IT. FOURTH,
12 PRE-HOSPITAL TIME AND HOSPITAL RESPONSIVENESS ARE BOTH
13 IMPORTANT TO TRAUMA PATIENTS. THE DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY
14 CONCLUDED NEGOTIATIONS WITH CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL TO JOIN THE
15 TRAUMA NETWORK. WE HAVE EXAMINED THE PRE-HOSPITAL TRAVEL TIMES
16 IF KING DREW WERE OUT OF THE TRAUMA NETWORK AND IF CALIFORNIA
17 WERE IN IT. OF THE INJURED PATIENTS WHO WILL TRAVEL FURTHER,
18 ONLY .3 TO .6% HAVE CRITICAL, TIME CRITICAL INJURIES. WHILE
19 THERE IS NO WAY TO DETERMINE WHICH IF ANY OF THEM WILL HAVE A
20 WORSE OUTCOME DUE TO A LONGER PRE-HOSPITALIZATION TIME, WE DO
21 KNOW THAT THEY WILL BE TAKEN TO A TRAUMA CENTER IN A FACILITY
22 THAT IS MORE LIKELY TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND AFTER THEY ARRIVE.
23 FURTHER, THE MAJORITY OF PATIENTS WILL NOT TRAVEL FURTHER AND
24 MANY WILL ACTUALLY TRAVEL A SHORTER DISTANCE. ULTIMATELY -- [
25 INTERJECTIONS]



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1

DR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE: ULTIMATELY, THE GETTING THE PATIENT TO
A HOSPITAL THAT IS FAST AND CAPABLE OF PROVIDING IMMEDIATE
DEFINITIVE CARE IS THE FUNDAMENTAL GOAL OF A TRAUMA SYSTEM.
FIFTH, WE NEED OUR STAFF. EVEN IF THE TRAUMA UNIT CLOSES, WE
WILL CONTINUE TO NEED EVERY CAPABLE NURSE, PHARMACIST,
RESPIRATORY THERAPIST, AND ALL OTHER CLINICAL STAFF, SUPPORT
STAFF IN THE HOSPITAL. WE REMAIN SHORT-STAFFED AND MUST HIRE
PERMANENT STAFF IF WE ARE TO FIX THE HOSPITAL FOR THE LONG-
TERM. AND FINALLY, SIX, THE FUTURE IS OURS TO RIGHT. WHILE THE
KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER IS STRUGGLING TODAY, ITS FUTURE CAN
AND MUST BE BRIGHT. I RECOMMENDED THIS CLOSURE FOR TWO VERY
IMPORTANT REASONS. FIRST, WITHOUT CLOSING TRAUMA, WE CANNOT
ASSURE THAT PATIENTS WILL BE SAFE OR THAT FUNDAMENTAL HOSPITAL
STANDARDS CAN BE MET. SECOND, IF STANDARDS CANNOT BE MET, THE
HOSPITAL ITSELF IS IN JEOPARDY OF CLOSING, AND THAT IS NOT
ACCEPTABLE. THIS HOSPITAL REMAINS CRITICAL TO THIS COMMUNITY.
LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO FIX THE UNDERLYING PROBLEMS AT THIS
CENTER AND IN THIS COMMUNITY. THERE IS PLENTY OF WORK TO BE
DONE. I'D NOW LIKE TO INTRODUCE TO YOU ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF,
MIKE METRO, OF THE L.A. COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT, WHO HAS
REVIEWED OUR PLANS AND WILL PROVIDE HIS COMMENTS.

23

MIKE METRO: LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT IS ONE OF THE
KEY PROVIDERS OF PRE-HOSPITAL CARE IN AND AROUND THE AREA OF



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1 KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER, SO WE UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF
2 THIS FACILITY TO THE COMMUNITY. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT IF THE
3 TRAUMA AT KING DREW CLOSES, THERE WILL BE AN IMPACT TO OUR
4 ORGANIZATION AND LONGER TRANSPORT TIMES FOR SOME TRAUMA
5 PATIENTS AND AN INCREASED TIME THAT OUR PARAMEDIC UNITS WILL
6 BE OUT OF SERVICE. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE KEY ISSUE IN
7 ALL OF THIS IS TREATING A PATIENT WHO HAS SUFFERED A
8 SIGNIFICANT TRAUMATIC INJURY, IS GETTING THE PATIENT TO THE
9 HOSPITAL, WHICH IS THE MOST APPROPRIATELY EQUIPPED AND STAFFED
10 TO HANDLE THAT PATIENT'S INJURY THE FIRST TIME. THAT'S KEY.
11 SHOULD THE CLOSURE OF KING DREW'S TRAUMA CENTER BE NECESSARY,
12 THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL GET THE PATIENT TO
13 THE NEAREST TRAUMA CENTER, FULFILLING OUR COMMITMENT TO THE
14 CITIZENS OF SOUTH LOS ANGELES WHO HAVE PLACED THEIR TRUST IN
15 US ALL. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE CHALLENGES FACING KING
16 DREW MEDICAL CENTER. THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA CENTER
17 WILL HAVE AN IMPACT TO THE L.A. COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT AND
18 OTHER E.M.S. PROVIDERS, BUT WE ALSO REALIZE THAT IF THE
19 CHALLENGES OF KING DREW ARE NOT MET AND THE E.R. WERE TO
20 CLOSE, THAT IMPACT WOULD AFFECT 45,000 PATIENTS ANNUALLY
21 INSTEAD OF THE 1,800 PATIENTS THAT ARE TRAUMATICALLY INJURED,
22 AND THAT WOULD BE DEVASTATING TO THE PRE-HOSPITAL CARE SYSTEM
23 AND THIS COMMUNITY. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]
24



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1 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WE'RE GOING TO -- SEE, THE REASON WE'RE
2 HERE TODAY IS TO HAVE THE PUBLIC TESTIMONY. AS I MENTIONED IN
3 MY OPENING COMMENTS, WE ARE GOING TO SHOW THE COURTESY TO
4 THOSE ELECTED OFFICIALS AND SOME COMMUNITY LEADERS THAT ARE
5 HERE, TO ALLOW THEM TO GO FIRST IN THEIR TESTIMONY, AND THEN
6 WE WILL OPEN IT UP TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. IN THAT
7 TESTIMONY, WE WOULD APPRECIATE IF, YOU KNOW, BECAUSE, THERE'S
8 A LOT OF FOLKS, THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING OF THE STACK, IF WE
9 COULD, YOU KNOW, KEEP THE TESTIMONY PER PERSON BETWEEN ONE AND
10 TWO MINUTES MAXIMUM, SO WE CAN GET EVERYONE IN TODAY TO ALLOW
11 THEM. WE KNOW THAT A LOT OF THE TESTIMONY WILL BE IN REGARDS
12 TO OUR SITUATION HERE, AND I KNOW THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE
13 TESTIMONY WON'T BE THAT WE'RE DOING THE RIGHT THING, SO WE
14 WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR -- WE APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION. SO,
15 FIRST OF ALL, IF I COULD CALL ON THE HONORABLE MAXINE WATERS
16 TO TESTIFY, AND FOLLOW -- [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]
17 [GAVEL]

18

19 **MAXINE WATERS:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I'M DELIGHTED TO BE HERE,
20 AND THANK YOU FOR HOSTING THIS HEARING. HOWEVER, WE'VE GOT A
21 PROBLEM. RATHER THAN TRY TO SQUEEZE MY TESTIMONY INTO ONE OR
22 TWO MINUTES, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK IF ONE OF YOU WOULD
23 RESPECTFULLY PASS A MOTION TO EXTEND THIS HEARING FOR ANOTHER
24 THREE HOURS UNTIL 9:00 THIS EVENING. [APPLAUSE]

25



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1 **MAXINE WATERS:** BECAUSE THREE HOURS IS JUST NOT SUFFICIENT.
2 THIS IS A HUGE ISSUE, AND WE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE A VOTE THAT
3 YOU'LL BE TAKING TOMORROW AND WE WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO
4 EXTEND THE TIME. WOULD YOU PLEASE DO THAT FOR US?

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** I -- I DON'T -- [INTERJECTIONS]

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** CONGRESSWOMAN WATERS -- EXCUSE ME. BEFORE
9 WE GET, YOU KNOW, OUT OF CONTROL HERE, I SAID THAT IF -- WE'RE
10 GOING TO TRY TO GET EVERYONE IN, AND IF THAT MEANS EXTENDING
11 THE HEARING, WE WILL, OKAY, AND WE'RE NOT TAKING A VOTE
12 TOMORROW. THE SOONEST THE VOTE WOULD BE TAKEN WOULD BE
13 PROBABLY A WEEK FROM TOMORROW BECAUSE OF THE INPUT WE GET
14 TODAY, THE DEPARTMENT'S GOING TO HAVE TO RESPOND TO THOSE
15 CONCERNS THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED, TO THE QUESTIONS THAT HAVE
16 BEEN RAISED, SO THERE WILL BE NO ACTION EITHER TAKEN THIS
17 EVENING OR TOMORROW, AND THE EARLIEST WOULD BE THE 23RD OF
18 NOVEMBER.

19

20 **MAXINE WATERS:** I'M SORRY.

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** SO AS FAR AS THE TESTIMONY TODAY, IF WE CAN
23 GET EVERYONE IN, AND IT LOOKS LIKE WHEN WE HIT 6:00 O'CLOCK,
24 THAT WE CAN GET ANOTHER FEW HOURS AND GET EVERYONE IN, THAT'S
25 FINE.



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1

2 **MAXINE WATERS:** I APPRECIATE IT. SUPERVISOR KNABE, I GUESS I'M
3 MIXED UP. I UNDERSTAND THAT ON THE AGENDA TOMORROW YOU WILL BE
4 VOTING ON WHETHER OR NOT YOU ARE GOING TO ACCEPT OUR SUPPORT
5 OR VOTE IN CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL TRAUMA CENTER. IS THAT CORRECT?

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THAT'S CORRECT. AS IT RELATES TO CALIFORNIA
8 ONLY.

9

10 **MAXINE WATERS:** HOWEVER, SIR, IT IS CONNECTED TO THE ISSUE THAT
11 WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT -- [APPLAUSE]

12

13 **MAXINE WATERS:** BECAUSE -- [GAVEL]

14

15 **MAXINE WATERS:** AND I THINK WE HAVE TO BE CLEAR ABOUT THIS. AS
16 I UNDERSTAND IT, CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL -- TRAUMA CENTER HAS BEEN
17 ORGANIZED, A BRAND-NEW TRAUMA CENTER, BUILT AND CREATED, AND
18 ONE OF ITS RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE TO ACCEPT THE TRAUMA
19 PATIENTS FROM KING HOSPITAL. THAT IS FACTORED INTO THE REVENUE
20 THAT THEY EXPECT IN ORDER TO RUN THE CENTER. IS THAT CORRECT?

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IT COULD BE. [INTERJECTIONS]

23

24 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY, I MEAN, I'LL ASK THE DEPARTMENT TO
25 RESPOND TO IT. THE POINT BEING IS WHETHER OR NOT THE VOTE TO



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1 CLOSE KING DREW TRAUMA OR NOT TO CLOSE IT, OBVIOUSLY WE NEED
2 ADDITIONAL HOSPITALS INTO THE TRAUMA NETWORK.

3

4 **MAXINE WATERS:** YOU CERTAINLY DO, AND I'M NOT OPPOSED TO
5 CALIFORNIA HAVING A TRAUMA CENTER, BUT WHAT I'M ASKING YOU IS
6 THIS: AS I UNDERSTAND IT, THEY HAVE NEGOTIATED WITH YOU AND
7 THE TRAUMA NETWORK FOR A PARTICULAR FEAT THAT YOU WILL PAY FOR
8 THE UNINSURED, ET CETERA, AND I ALSO UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE A
9 SEPARATE POT OF MONEY THEY INSISTED ON BECAUSE IT COSTS MORE
10 MONEY, THEY THINK, IN ORDER TO RUN THIS OPERATION. SO WHEN YOU
11 VOTE TO BRING THEM INTO THE SYSTEM, YOU'RE VOTING TO PAY THEM
12 NOT ONLY THE FEES THAT HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATED, BUT OUT OF THIS
13 ADDITIONAL POT OF MONEY BECAUSE THEY HAVE SAID THEY CAN'T DO
14 THIS FOR THE SAME AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT YOU PAY TO KING TO DO
15 THIS WORK. SO WHEN YOU VOTE THEM IN, YOU'RE ALSO IN ESSENCE
16 VOTING OUT SOME OF THE RESOURCES THAT WE WOULD USE FOR KING
17 FOR TRAUMA CENTER. [APPLAUSE]

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THE EXTRA POT OF MONEY THAT YOU'RE
20 REFERRING TO IS MEASURE B DOLLARS WHICH IS PASSED BY THE
21 VOTERS COUNTY-WIDE. [INTERJECTIONS]

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IN ADDITION AS IT RELATES TO THE CALIFORNIA
24 APPLICATION FOR TRAUMA SERVICE TO THE COUNTY, THAT APPLICATION



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1 HAS BEEN IN THE PROCESS, AND I'LL ASK THE DEPARTMENT TO
2 RESPOND, BUT I UNDERSTAND THAT FIVE, SIX MONTHS AGO.

3

4 **DR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE:** RIGHT, CALIFORNIA HAS BEEN CONSIDERING
5 REENTERING THE TRAUMA NETWORK FOR A LONG PERIOD -- [
6 INTERJECTIONS]

7

8 **DR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE:** THERE WE GO. CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL HAS
9 BEEN CONSIDERING REENTERING THE TRAUMA NETWORK FOR AT LEAST
10 SIX MONTHS OR LONGER, AS THE SUPERVISOR SAID. WE IN FACT PAID
11 KING SIGNIFICANTLY MORE THAN ANY OTHER -- ALL OF THE COUNTY
12 HOSPITALS, I SHOULD SAY, WE PAY ALL OUR COUNTY HOSPITALS
13 SIGNIFICANTLY MORE THAN THE PRIVATE HOSPITALS TO HANDLE TRAUMA
14 PATIENTS BECAUSE WE PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT FUNDING FOR THE
15 UNINSURED THEMSELVES. WE CAN ALSO REDRAW THE BOUNDARIES AND TO
16 BRING CALIFORNIA INTO THE TRAUMA CENTER IF KING STAYS IN. SO
17 IT DOES NOT PRECLUDE US BRINGING -- BRINGING CALIFORNIA INTO
18 THE TRAUMA NETWORK DOES NOT PRECLUDE US DRAWING THE BOUNDARIES
19 DIFFERENTLY, PROVIDING THEM THE PATIENTS, TO BRING THEM INTO
20 THE TRAUMA CENTER AND KEEPING KING OPEN IF THAT'S IN ORDER.

21

22 **MAXINE WATERS:** MR. GARTHWAITE, I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU PAY YOUR
23 PRIVATE TRAVEL PROVIDERS MORE THAN YOU PAY THE COUNTY, JUST
24 THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT YOU SAID, NUMBER ONE.

25



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1 **DR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE:** NO.

2

3 **MAXINE WATERS:** NUMBER TWO, YOU'VE ALREADY CHANGED THE
4 BOUNDARIES TO INCLUDE PART OF THE POPULATION FROM KING INTO
5 THE CALIFORNIA TRAUMA AREA, AND IN ADDITION TO THE POT OF
6 MONEY, THE EXTRA POT OF MONEY THAT YOU'VE SET ASIDE TO
7 COMPENSATE THEM, THEIR RATES ARE HIGHER THAN THE ONES YOU WERE
8 PAYING AT KING.

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY.

11

12 **DR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE:** WELL, NO. [INTERJECTIONS] [GAVEL]

13

14 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** PLEASE, I -- I COULD --

15

16 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** MR. CHAIRMAN --

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** CONGRESSWOMAN WATERS --

19

20 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** MR. CHAIRMAN.

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IF YOU JUST WANT TO GO AHEAD AND PROVIDE
23 YOUR TESTIMONY, AND THEN WE'LL -- [INTERJECTIONS]

24



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1 **MAXINE WATERS:** WELL, I REALLY DO -- AND I REALLY DO WANT TO BE
2 COOPERATIVE. HOWEVER, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I DON'T WANT YOU
3 TO THINK THAT YOU CAN COME HERE WITH A PERFUNCTORY HEARING
4 WHERE WE WILL -- YOU'RE PEOPLE THAT I WORK WITH, YOU'RE PEOPLE
5 THAT I KNOW, AND IF YOU SAW THIS AS A BEILENSON HEARING, WHERE
6 YOU COULD COME AND RUN US THROUGH ONE MINUTE AT A TIME WHEN
7 YOU'VE GOT THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE OUTSIDE ORGANIZED TO SAVE THIS
8 TRAUMA CENTER, THEN IT JUST CAN'T WORK THAT WAY, AND IT IS
9 IMPORTANT THAT THOSE OF US WHO KNOW A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT
10 WHAT YOU'RE DOING HAVE TO UNFOLD IT SO THAT I DON'T GET UP
11 HERE IN ONE MINUTE AND JUST SAY SOMETHING, WE HAVE TO MAKE
12 SENSE OUT OF THIS, AND MAKING SENSE OUT OF THIS GOES LIKE
13 THIS, COMMISSION -- SUPERVISOR KNABE, IT GOES LIKE THIS. FIRST
14 OF ALL, WE JUST ABSOLUTELY OPPOSE CLOSURE OF THIS TRAUMA
15 CENTER. [APPLAUSE]

16

17 **MAXINE WATERS:** WE CAME HERE TO OPPOSE IT. IT IS NOT THAT WE'RE
18 SIMPLY EMOTIONAL ABOUT THIS. WE'VE EXAMINED THE REASONS THAT
19 ARE GIVEN BY MR. GARTHWAITE. THIS SO-CALLED DESCRIPTION OF
20 DECOMPRESSION DOES NOT COMPUTE. IT DOES NOT COMPUTE BECAUSE
21 WHAT HE DIDN'T TELL US WERE THESE KINDS OF THINGS. HE DIDN'T
22 SAY, "WELL, IF WE CLOSE THE TRAUMA CENTER, WE HAVE "X" NUMBER
23 OF NURSES THAT WE'RE GOING TO DO THIS WITH, WE'VE GOT "X"
24 NUMBER OF DOCTORS AND THIS IS HOW WE'RE GOING TO BETTER
25 UTILIZE THEM, WE'RE GOING TO OPEN UP OTHER UNITS THAT HAVE



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1 BEEN CLOSED." AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE TRAUMA CENTER HAS BEEN
2 UNDERSTAFFED FOR SO LONG UNTIL IT IS NOT PROPER TO TALK ABOUT
3 DECOMPRESSING TO MAKE THINGS WORK BETTER. DO YOU KNOW, AND
4 PERHAPS YOU DON'T KNOW, YOU ONLY HAVE TWO NURSES WHO COLLECT
5 DATA IN THE TRAUMA CENTER, KEEPING UP WITH EVERYTHING THAT
6 GOES ON? DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY COUNTY U.S.C. HAVE? THEY HAVE
7 NINE WHO DO THE JOB. I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT TWO NURSES PER
8 SHIFT. I'M TALKING ABOUT TWO NURSES, PERIOD, 24 HOURS A DAY.
9 THAT'S ONE OF THE PROBLEMS WITH WHAT WE'RE DOING. IN ADDITION
10 TO THAT, MR. GARTHWAITE, YOU HAVEN'T TOLD US WHY CALIFORNIA
11 HOSPITAL CAN DO THIS JOB BETTER THAN KING. YOU HAVE NOT
12 EVALUATED THEM -- [APPLAUSE]

13

14 **MAXINE WATERS:** -- YOU HAVE NOT PRESENTED THIS BOARD WITH AN
15 EVALUATION OF THE COMPETENCIES OF THE DOCTORS IN THE TRAUMA
16 CENTER THAT WILL BE PROVIDING THE SERVICES THAT SOME OF OUR
17 DOCTORS HAVE BEEN DOING FOR 15 OR 20 YEARS. SO WHEN I SAY TO
18 YOU, AND I REALLY DON'T WANT TO MAKE YOU ANGRY, BUT WHAT I SAY
19 TO YOU IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO DO THIS IN A MINUTE BECAUSE
20 THERE'S SO MUCH INFORMATION THAT IS NOT BEFORE US. MR.
21 GARTHWAITE, YOU KNOW, GETS WHATEVER TIME HE GETS, BUT, YOU
22 KNOW, HE IS THE ONE THAT'S BEEN IN CHARGE OF THIS MESS FOR
23 OVER THE LAST YEAR. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE] [
24 GAVEL]

25



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1 **MAXINE WATERS:** AND WHILE YOU HAVE ALL OF THE COMPLAINT ABOUT
2 THE NURSES, THOSE TRAVELING AND CONTRACT NURSES THAT YOU HAVE,
3 AFTER YOU CASCADED OUT NURSES THAT HAD 10 AND 15 YEARS WHO
4 COST US ALL OF THIS MONEY THAT SOME OF YOU ARE COMPLAINING
5 ABOUT BECAUSE YOU SAY THEY DON'T SPEAK ENGLISH, ET CETERA, HIS
6 CAMDEN GROUP HIRED THEM ALL UNDER HIS SUPERVISION AND HIS
7 DIRECTION. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

8

9 **MAXINE WATERS:** AND SO HE HAS NOT ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY. HE
10 TOOK OVER THE MANAGEMENT. AS THE KIDS SAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD,
11 HE'S THE SHOT CALLER ON ALL OF THIS. [APPLAUSE]

12

13 **MAXINE WATERS:** HE TOOK OVER ALL OF THE MANAGEMENT, CAMDEN
14 GROUP IS HIS. WE ARE OPPOSED TO THE CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA
15 CENTER. WE DON'T THINK YOU'VE BEEN PROVIDED WITH ALL OF THE
16 INFORMATION. AND LET ME SAY THAT WE ARE VERY PAINED ABOUT THE
17 DIVERSION OF THE AMBULANCES FROM KING. THIS WAS A SETUP TO
18 PROVE -- WELL FIRST OF ALL, YOU HAVE VIOLATED BEILENSEN IN
19 ALLOWING THE DIVERSION TO TAKE PLACE BECAUSE YOU HAVE REDUCED
20 THE SERVICES AND YOU DIDN'T TELL US ABOUT IT. NUMBER TWO,
21 NUMBER TWO, IT'S A SETUP, BECAUSE WHAT MR. GARTHWAITE AND MR.
22 LEAF SET OUT TO DO WAS TO PROVE IN THE DARK OF NIGHT THAT THEY
23 COULD DIVERT THESE AMBULANCES AND THEN THEY'RE GOING TO COME
24 BACK AND SAY, "SEE, NOBODY DIED." OR "THE TRAVEL TIME WAS NOT
25 SO BAD." AND SO WHAT THEY HAVE DONE IS, AGAIN, THEY'RE UP TO



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1 PUTTING TOGETHER INFORMATION THAT REALLY DOES NOT COMPUTE
2 WELL. NOW, ON THIS DIVERSION, WHAT THEY DON'T TELL YOU ALSO IS
3 IT'S NOT JUST THE AMBULANCES THAT BRING PEOPLE IN TRAUMA TO
4 THE TRAUMA BAY. FOLKS DROP PEOPLE OFF IN CARS. AS A MATTER OF
5 FACT, IF YOU TALK TO THE DOCTORS, THEY WILL TELL YOU IT WAS
6 JUST A FEW DAYS AGO THAT A MAN SHOT IN THE HEAD WALKED INTO
7 THE TRAUMA CENTER, AND SO DON'T JUST COUNT THE NUMBERS IN THE
8 AMBULANCES. WE'RE SAYING THIS, AND I'M LOOKING AT -- I'M
9 LOOKING AT -- AND MR. YAROSLAVSKY, YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT THIS,
10 YOU WERE IN THE FOREFRONT OF PUSHING PROPOSITION B, YOU WANTED
11 TO EXPAND THE TRAUMA CENTERS, YOU WANTED TO MAKE SURE WE
12 STRENGTHENED THE TRAUMA NETWORK. WHEN I LOOK AT SECTION 3 AND
13 IT TALKS ABOUT MAINTAINING ALL ASPECTS OF THE COUNTY-WIDE
14 SYSTEM OF TRAUMA CENTERS TO EXPAND THE SYSTEM, TO COVER ALL
15 AREAS OF THE COUNTY, TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL INCENTIVES, TO KEEP
16 EXISTING, EXISTING TRAUMA CENTERS WITHIN THE SYSTEM, TO PAY
17 FOR THE COST OF TRAUMA CENTERS, INCLUDING PHYSICIAN AND OTHER
18 PERSONNEL COST, TO DEFRAY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES RELATED TO
19 THE FOREGOING, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF SALARIES AND BENEFITS
20 OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES PERSONNEL AND OTHER
21 INCIDENTAL EXPENDITURES. I COULD GO ON AND ON AND ON, BUT LET
22 ME REMIND ALL OF YOU, BECAUSE THIS IS WHAT I'M VERY UPSET
23 ABOUT THESE DAYS, WHEN I SEE ALL OF THESE BOND MEASURES THAT
24 PEOPLE FROM THIS COMMUNITY, POOR PEOPLE, BLACK PEOPLE, LATINO



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1 PEOPLE VOTE FOR, THE VALLEY DOES NOT VOTE TO TAX ITSELF. [

2 APPLAUSE]

3

4 **MAXINE WATERS:** WE VOTE DISPROPORTIONATELY FOR EVERYTHING
5 ANYBODY ASKS US TO DO. WE VOTED TO TAX OURSELVES BECAUSE WE
6 THOUGHT THAT MEANT OUR TRAUMA CENTER WOULD BE MAINTAINED. [

7 APPLAUSE]

8

9 **MAXINE WATERS:** I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR INDULGING ME THIS TIME.
10 I KNOW THAT YOU WISH US TO BE ABLE TO GET HERE AND SPEAK A
11 LITTLE BIT MORE CONCISELY AND NOT TAKE UP ALL OF THIS TIME,
12 BUT THIS IS A SERIOUS ISSUE THAT RUNS VERY DEEP. A LOT DEEPER
13 THAN YOU KNOW. I WANT TO TELL YOU, THIS COMMUNITY HAS NOT BEEN
14 OUT IN THESE NUMBERS IN MANY, MANY YEARS. THEY'RE OUT FOR A
15 REASON. I'M BEGGING OF YOU, DON'T IGNORE THIS. DON'T
16 MARGINALIZE THIS. WE WANT OUR TRAUMA CENTER KEPT OPEN. [

17 APPLAUSE] [GAVEL] [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE] [

18 CHANTING]

19

20 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY.

21

22 **AUDIENCE CHANTING:** SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING
23 DREW! SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW! SAVE
24 KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW!



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1 SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING
2 DREW!

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. [GAVEL]

5

6 **AUDIENCE CHANTING:** SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING
7 DREW! SAVE KING DREW! [INTERJECTIONS]

8

9 **MAXINE WATERS:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. KNABE. DO YOU HAVE ANY
10 QUESTIONS YOU'D LIKE TO ASK ME? [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** NO MA'AM WE'RE HERE --

13

14 **MAXINE WATERS:** I'M SORRY, OH --

15

16 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WE ARE HERE TO TAKE YOUR INPUT, TO ADDRESS
17 THE ISSUES YOU RAISE.

18

19 **MAXINE WATERS:** OKAY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

20

21 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** AND IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU.

22

23 **MAXINE WATERS:** THANK YOU, AND I'D LIKE TO ASK MR. YAROSLAVSKY
24 BEFORE I LEAVE, I SAW YOUR COMMENTS ON TELEVISION THE OTHER
25 DAY, AND WE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONCE TALKED ABOUT THE



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1 INCOMPETENCE AND THE MISMANAGEMENT, BUT YOU ACCUSE KING OF
2 BEING CORRUPT. I'VE NEVER HEARD KING ACCUSED OF BEING CORRUPT
3 BEFORE. ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DESCRIBE KING THAT WAY? JUST
4 THINK ABOUT IT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** I'M GOING TO ASK -- WE'RE GOING TO -- NEXT
7 WILL BE SENATOR GIL CEDILLO, GIL, AND THEN -- [INTERJECTIONS
8] [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE] [INTERJECTIONS]

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY -- NORM, IF YOU WANT TO, YOU WERE
11 GOING TO FOLLOW, I JUST TRY TO DO PROTOCOL. GO RIGHT AHEAD. [
12 CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

13

14 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** SORRY. JUST TRYING TO FOLLOW PROTOCOL. [
15 INTERJECTIONS]

16

17 **MERVYN DYMALLY:** MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF
18 SUPERVISORS, I CANNOT SAY THAT I AM PLEASED TO BE HERE TODAY,
19 BECAUSE I AM NOT. I AM NOT PLEASED TO BE HERE TODAY BECAUSE
20 YOU HAVE VIOLATED TWO LAWS. YOU HAVE VIOLATED THE BROWN ACT, A
21 FACT WHICH IS CONFIRMED BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY, AND YOU HAVE
22 VIOLATED THE BEILENSEN ACT. AND THEREFORE, I QUESTION THE
23 SINCERITY OF THIS MEETING BECAUSE YOU HAVE TAKEN A POSITION
24 BEFORE THE FACT. NOW, WHEN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY LOST ITS
25 ACCREDITATION, SPEAKER HERB WESSON ORGANIZED THE ASSEMBLY



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1 SELECT COMMITTEE ON KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER, WHICH I CHAIR.
2 MRS. BURKE CAME TO THE MEETING AND ANNOUNCED THAT THE COUNTY
3 WAS GOING TO SET UP A NATIONAL TASK FORCE HEADED BY THE MOST
4 CREDIBLE M.D. IN THE COUNTRY, DR. SATCHER. AMONG THE SATCHER
5 RECOMMENDATIONS WAS A CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP AT DREW MEDICAL
6 SCHOOL, AND DREW DID HAVE A CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP. AND TODAY, I
7 AM CALLING FOR CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
8 HEALTH SERVICES. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

9

10 **MERVYN DYMALLY:** FOR THE LAST YEAR, DR. GARTHWAITE AND MR. LEAF
11 HAVE RUN THIS HOSPITAL AND THE SITUATION HAS GOTTEN WORSE. THE
12 SELECT COMMITTEE HAS HELD SIX HEARINGS HERE AND THE SENATE HAS
13 HELD ONE HEARING. AND WE HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT
14 THERE IS AN ORGANIZED EFFORT TO DISMANTLE THIS HOSPITAL. [
15 APPLAUSE]

16

17 **MERVYN DYMALLY:** NOW, YOU TELL ME THE MORALITY OF USING COUNTY
18 FUNDS, STATE FUNDS AND FEDERAL FUNDS, TO OPEN UP A TRAUMA
19 CENTER IN A PRIVATE HOSPITAL. NOW, MY FRIEND, SHERIFF BACA,
20 LOST HIS TAX MEASURE, AND DO YOU KNOW WHY? THE PEOPLE OF THIS
21 COMMUNITY HAVE WISED UP. THEY RECOGNIZE THAT THE TRAUMA FUNDS
22 IN PROPOSITION B ARE BEING USED TO SUPPORT A PRIVATE HOSPITAL,
23 AND THEREFORE THEY VOTED AGAINST THAT TAX MEASURE, AND THAT IS
24 JUST A WARNING. IN TESTIMONY, BEFORE THE SELECT COMMITTEE, THE
25 FEDERAL REGIONAL DIRECTOR SAID, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION I



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1 ASKED, AND I SAID "MR. FLICK, THIS IS MERVYN DYMALLY, DID YOU
2 PUT ANY CONDITIONS ON THE COUNTY TO CLOSE THE TRAUMA HOSPITAL
3 IN RETURN FOR FEDERAL FUNDS?" AND HE SAID, "ABSOLUTELY NOT."
4 AND HE WENT ON TO SAY, "WE DO NOT MAKE THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS,
5 WE SIMPLY MAKE OBSERVATIONS." I RAISE THIS ISSUES BECAUSE ON
6 SEVERAL OCCASIONS I'VE HEARD ONE OR MORE SUPERVISORS SAY ON
7 TELEVISION AND RADIO, AND IN THE MEDIA, THAT THEY WERE UNDER
8 THE GUN BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THAT IF THEY DID NOT CLOSE
9 THE TRAUMA CENTER, THAT THEY WILL HAVE TO CLOSE THE KING
10 HOSPITAL, AND THAT IS NOT TRUE. AND SO LET ME SAY TO YOU, WE
11 ARE OPPOSED TO THIS CLOSING. IN MY 42 YEARS OF PUBLIC LIFE, I
12 DON'T KNOW OF A TIME OTHER THAN CIVILIZED MOVEMENT, WHEN THIS
13 COMMUNITY WAS SO ORGANIZED AGAINST AN ATTEMPT TO RAID THIS
14 HOSPITAL. AND SO I AM CALLING UPON YOU TO RESCIND THE ACTIONS
15 WHICH YOU HAVE TAKEN BECAUSE YOU HAVE VIOLATED THE LAW AND I
16 HAVE CALLED ON THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO INVESTIGATE WHAT YOU
17 HAVE DONE. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

18

19 **MERVYN DYMALLY:** SO THOSE ARE MY FEW COMMENTS. I THINK YOU
20 OUGHT TO CONSIDER VERY SERIOUSLY WHAT YOU'RE DOING, BECAUSE
21 YOU'RE EMBARKING ON THE WRONG TREE. [APPLAUSE] [CHEERS AND
22 APPLAUSE]

23

24 **REVEREND JACKSON:** MR. CHAIRMAN, I REALLY WANT TO MAKE A -- [
25 INTERJECTIONS]



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1

2 **REVEREND JACKSON:** -- A VERY SHORT APPEAL. AS I THINK ABOUT THE
3 GENIUS OF DR. DREW AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO MEDICINE THAT HAS
4 SINCE GIVE THIS PLACE A CERTAIN STATURE, DR. KING DREW WAS
5 ESSENTIALLY THEN UP OF A RECONCILER AND A HEALER. THERE IS AS
6 MUCH TRAUMA NOW BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THE SUPERVISORS AS
7 PEOPLE WHO ARE BEING SHOT OR COMING OUT OF WRECKS. WE CANNOT
8 STOP THE TRAUMA OF A CAR WRECK. WE CAN'T STOP THE TRAUMA OF A
9 GUNSHOT. BUT THERE'S A TRAUMATIC SHOOT-OUT HERE BETWEEN
10 LEADERSHIP. AND IN THE END, PEOPLE, WHILE CHEERING AND BOOING,
11 ARE LOSING CONFIDENCE IN BOTH, AND LOSING HOPE IF THEY DON'T
12 SEE A WAY OUT. I WOULD SUBMIT IT'S ALMOST IRRESPONSIBLE FOR
13 YOU LEADERS IN THAT SENSE NOT TO HAVE HAD THE VIGOROUS CLOSED
14 DOOR SESSION. I BELIEVE THAT THE STATURE OF CONGRESSWOMAN
15 WATERS AND MERV DYMALLY AND OTHER LEGISLATORS, TO SEIZE THEIR
16 COMMON GROUND. I'VE KNOWN ZEV FOR SOME YEARS AND I RESPECT YOU
17 VERY MUCH, THE REASON I TALKED TO YOU AND MS. BRATHWAITE VERY
18 BRIEFLY. THE SUPERVISORS ARE SAYING THEY DON'T WANT THE
19 HOSPITAL TO CLOSE. YOU'RE SAYING RESOURCES ARE NOT THE ISSUE.
20 THEY DON'T WANT IT TO CLOSE, THE RESOURCES ARE NOT THE ISSUE,
21 THAT'S SIGNIFICANT. THE PEOPLE AND THE OFFICIALS ARE SAYING
22 THEY DON'T WANT IT CLOSED. SO IF YOU DON'T WANT IT CLOSED AND
23 THEY DON'T WANT IT CLOSED... [INTERJECTIONS]

24



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1 **REVEREND JACKSON:** THE RESOURCE IS NOT AN ISSUE, THEN DON'T
2 CLOSE IT. [INTERJECTIONS]

3

4 **REVEREND JACKSON:** NOW, THAT MAY MEAN SOME PROCESS OF
5 NEGOTIATING FACTS AND RECONCILING WHATEVER THERE IS BETWEEN
6 THOSE TWO POSITIONS. SO NOW WE HAVE A SHOWDOWN WHICH IS
7 TRAUMATIC. OBVIOUSLY THERE IS THE LARGER HEALTH ISSUE. THE
8 PEOPLE HERE ARE SO EMOTIONAL BECAUSE THEY FEEL THREATENED. AND
9 IT'S NOT -- YOU CAN'T JUST LIMIT IT TO THE HOSPITAL. HERE,
10 PEOPLE WHOSE CHILDREN ARE BEING KILLED DISPROPORTIONATELY,
11 SERVING IN WAR DISPROPORTIONATELY, WHO HAVE THE LOWEST WAGES,
12 WHO WORK HARDER AND MAKE LESS, THEY PAY MORE FOR LESS, LIVE
13 UNDER STRESS AND DON'T LIVE AS LONG. THIS HAS JUST IGNITED A
14 BIGGER ISSUE OF THEIR COLLECTIVE TRAUMA. SO THE HOSPITAL IS
15 SIMPLY A SYMBOL OF THEIR TRAUMA. I WOULD APPEAL TO YOU TO DO
16 TWO THINGS. ONE IS THAT THE IDEA OF PUTTING ON THE CALIFORNIA
17 HOSPITAL ISSUE TOMORROW, THAT YOU WOULD POSTPONE THAT,
18 BECAUSE, IN SUBSTANCE, THAT BECOMES A WAY TO CLOSE THIS TRAUMA
19 UNIT, FOR FORM THAT ONE, YOU CAN'T FORM THIS ONE, AND SO
20 THAT'S WHY THAT IS A REACTION TO THAT. I WOULD THINK THAT THE
21 SUPERVISORS AND THE APPROPRIATE LEADERSHIP OUGHT TO, "A" MEET.
22 YOU KNOW THAT THESE ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE PEOPLE AND YOU ALL HAVE
23 THE SAME INTERESTS, AND WHEN THIS IS OVER YOU'LL ALL BE ABLE
24 TO LIVE BY HERE TOGETHER. AND PLEASE HEAR WHAT I'M TRYING TO
25 SAY. I'M REALLY TRYING TO MAKE A POINT. THAT BETWEEN WHAT YOU



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1 WANT, THE HOSPITAL TO STAY OPEN AND RESOURCE NOT THE ISSUE,
2 AND THAT'S WHAT THEY WANT. SO WHY CAN'T YOU POSTPONE IN IT
3 VOTING ON THE OTHER HOSPITAL. ANOTHER THING THAT SEEMS TO BE
4 OFFENSIVE, ZEV, TO MANY PEOPLE IS THAT THEY VOTED FOR A BOND,
5 ASSUMING THAT THAT WOULD IN FACT PROTECT THE HOSPITAL. IT
6 SEEMS AS IF THEY VOTED FOR A BOND TO FUND ANOTHER HOSPITAL AND
7 LET US DOWN -- [INTERJECTIONS]

8

9 **REVEREND JACKSON** : WHICH EXCEPT, COME ON, I'M REALLY TRY TO--
10 THAT EXCEPT SEEMS THAT AS THEY HAD BEEN HAD, THAT THEY WERE
11 KIND OF SET UP OR NOT. SO YOU'VE GOT THIS DISTRUST THING. AND
12 I WOULD APPEAL TO YOU, PLEASE APPEAL TO YOU, TO HAVE A MEETING
13 WITH THESE REPRESENTATIVE LEADERS AND YOURSELVES AND LAY THE
14 CARDS ON THE TABLE. YOU'RE MAKING SOME CASE, SOME ARGUMENTS
15 ABOUT CORRUPTION AS SOMEONE SUGGESTED, ABOUT INCOMPETENCY,
16 THOSE ARE NEGOTIABLE THINGS. IF THERE'S INCOMPETENCY THEN GET
17 COMPETENT PEOPLE. IF THERE'S CORRUPTION, THEN JAIL SOMEBODY.
18 BUT IF THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF CORRUPTION, THEN DON'T SAY IT,
19 AND THERE'S NO INCOMPETENCE -- IF THERE IS INCOMPETENCE THEN
20 FIND COMPETENT PEOPLE. IT SEEMS THIS IS IRRECONCILABLE. YOU
21 DON'T WANT IT CLOSED, THEY DON'T WANT IT CLOSED, RESOURCES ARE
22 NOT THE ISSUE, THEREFORE, LET'S TALK IT OUT AND NOT FIGHT IT
23 OUT. I WOULD APPEAL TO YOU TO CONSIDER, IN THIS CASE, A
24 MEETING BETWEEN THE APPROPRIATE SUPERVISORS AND THESE LEADERS
25 AND TRY TO WRESTLE WITH IT IF IT TAKES SEVERAL DAYS, WRESTLE



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1 WITH IT UNTIL SMOKE COMES OUT OF THE ROOM. LET THERE BE LIGHT.

2 [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

3

4 **REVEREND JACKSON:** SO ASSUMING THEY'RE ALL OPERATING IN GOOD

5 FAITH, SPEAK THE SIMPLE TRUTH ONE MORE TIME. HERE'S

6 CONGRESSWOMAN LEADING THIS DRIVE, AND HERE ARE YOU, BOTH ARE

7 SAYING YOU DON'T WANT THE HOSPITAL TO CLOSE. YOU'RE SAYING

8 RESOURCES IS NOT THE ISSUE. IF THAT'S TRUE, YOU'RE HALFWAY

9 HOME. SO CAN'T YOU AND THE LEADERS MEET AND WORK ON A

10 RESOLUTION WITHOUT THE THREAT OF CLOSURE HANGING OVER PEOPLE'S

11 HEADS? IS THAT POSSIBLE, SIR? [APPLAUSE]

12

13 **REVEREND JACKSON:** IS THAT POSSIBLE? I'M NOT SETTING A SCENE

14 THAT YOU KNOW I ACCEPT THIS REALLY WHICH I AM MAKING THIS

15 APPEAL, IS THAT POSSIBLE? THIS WILL -- THERE'S NO FUTURE IN

16 THIS FIGHT, AND IT WILL BE A FIGHT UNTIL THE BITTER END.

17

18 **SUP. BURKE:** YOU KNOW, I THINK THAT ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE

19 HAVE TO REITERATE IS THAT ALREADY SOMEONE SAID IT THREE TIMES,

20 WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING IN PRIVATE, EVERYTHING HAS TO BE IN THIS

21 FORUM. SO THIS IS -- [INTERJECTIONS]

22

23 **SUP. BURKE:** THIS IS -- [GAVEL]

24



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1 **SUP. BURKE:** WELL, JUST A SECOND, WAIT A MINUTE. ALL RIGHT. I
2 THINK I'VE GOT MY POINT. WHATEVER WE DO HAS TO BE IN THIS
3 FORUM, HAS TO BE PUBLIC.
4
5 REVEREND JACKSON I THINK, UNLESS I'M ALTOGETHER OFF, AND I'M
6 NOT IN AN UPSMANSHIP THING, IN MY YEARS OF WORK WITH DR. KING,
7 I MET YVONNE BRATHWAITE-BURKE THROUGH DR. KING, SO I'M NOT IN
8 AN UPSMANSHIP DISPOSITION. I'M TRYING TO FIGURE WIN-WIN, NOT
9 WIN OR LOSER. WE ALL LOSE IF THIS PLACE CLOSES, WE ALL LOSE IF
10 THESE PEOPLE FEEL HURT. YOU KNOW, BUSH IS SAYING IN IRAQ, I'M
11 GOING TO BOMB YOU TO SAVE YOU. IT'S ALMOST LIKE "WE'RE GOING
12 TO CLOSE THE HOSPITAL TO SAVE YOU." THEY DON'T WANT TO BE
13 SAVED THAT WAY. AND SO THERE MUST BE SURELY SOME WAY SHORT OF
14 THIS KIND OF ATMOSPHERE TO WALK THROUGH WHAT YOU SEE AS YOUR
15 CRITICAL POINTS. IF YOU WANTED IT CLOSED AND THEY DIDN'T WANT
16 IT CLOSED THAT WOULD BE A FIGHT. YOU SAY YOU DON'T WANT IT
17 CLOSED, THEY DON'T WANT IT CLOSED. I ASK YOU IS RESOURCES --
18 THE RESOURCE IS NOT THE ISSUE. IF THAT'S THE CASE, THAT IS A -
19 - YOU'RE CLOSE. AND I'M NOT SURE THAT YOU'LL RESOLVE THIS IN
20 THIS SETTING, NOW I'M TALKING A CLOSED DOOR CLANDESTINE
21 MEETING, THAT WAS MEETING THAT TOOK PLACE WITHOUT THESE PEOPLE
22 TO DECIDE TO CLOSE IT. [INTERJECTIONS]

23



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1 >>REVEREND JACKSON: THAT WAS NOT A HEARING. THAT WAS A MEETING
2 AND A DECISION WAS MADE BASED UPON SOME RECOMMENDATIONS. SO IS
3 IT POSSIBLE? CAN YOU ACCEPT MY APPEAL HERE?

4

5 SUP. BURKE: WELL, I THINK THAT WE CERTAINLY HAVE TO CONTINUE
6 TO WORK TOGETHER. WE HAVE TO CONTINUE TO TRY TO HAVE
7 COMMUNICATION AND TO TRY TO MOVE, BECAUSE I THINK EVERYONE HAS
8 THE SAME THING IN MIND. WE WANT NOT ONLY THE HOSPITAL OPEN,
9 BUT WE WANT THE HOSPITAL TO BE THE BEST. THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE
10 IS TRYING TO DO. [INTERJECTIONS]

11

12 SUP. BURKE: AND I BELIEVE THAT -- YOU KNOW, I MEAN, NOW FROM
13 THE RUMBLINGS, THE QUESTION GETS TO BE WHAT IS THE BEST, AND
14 THERE MAY BE A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION AS TO WHAT IS -- WHAT THE
15 HOSPITAL SHOULD LOOK LIKE, AND -- [INTERJECTIONS]

16

17 REVEREND JACKSON: COME ON, FRIENDS COME ON, SHHH. PLEASE.
18 PLEASE.

19

20 SUP. BURKE: I THINK THAT WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT AND CERTAINLY I
21 THINK THERE'S ALWAYS -- WE WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE
22 COMMUNICATION.

23

24 REVEREND JACKSON: BUT MY POINT IS THAT WE ARE STARTING WITH
25 THE CONCLUSION.



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1

2 **SUP. BURKE:** SEE, I CAN'T REALLY RESPOND WITH PEOPLE SCREAMING
3 AT ME. YOU KNOW, AND --

4

5 **REVEREND JACKSON:** SHHH. COME ON FOLKS.

6

7 **SUP. BURKE:** YOU KNOW, AND SO I'LL LET PEOPLE SCREAM AND LET
8 THEM -- AND THAT'S WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR, FOR THEM TO BE HEARD,
9 AND WE WILL SIT HERE UNTIL EVERYONE IS HEARD, AND YOU CAN BE
10 HEARD IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS. SOME PEOPLE MAY WANT TO COME UP
11 TO THE MICROPHONE AND SPEAK, OTHERS MAY WANT TO SPEAK OUT, BUT
12 WE'RE HERE TO LISTEN NO MATTER HOW THE MESSAGE IS PRESENTED TO
13 US, AND THAT'S WHAT WE INTEND TO DO.

14

15 **REVEREND JACKSON:** EXCUSE ME. WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY, IS IF YOU
16 START WITH THE CONCLUSION, YOU START WITH THE CONCLUSION. THAT
17 MEANS THERE'S BEEN SOME INDUCTIVE REASONING TO ARRIVE AT THE
18 CONCLUSION THAT THE PLACE IS NOT FIT TO STAY OPEN. THE
19 COMMUNITY REJECTS THAT CONCLUSION AND THE INFORMATION THAT LED
20 UP TO THAT, SO THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF THE MEETING GOING ON IN
21 THE FIRST PLACE. AND AS THERE MUST BE MEETINGS IN THE FIRST
22 PLACE. I'M GOING TO COME BACK AGAIN. IF YOU SAID, "WE DON'T
23 WANT TO KEEP THE PLACE OPEN," THE COMMUNITY SAID, "WE DO WANT
24 TO KEEP IT OPEN." THAT'S A CONFRONTATION, YOU SAY YOU WANT IT
25 OPEN, THEY WANT IT OPEN, I SAID IS IT RESOURCES, THE RESOURCES



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1 ARE NOT THE ISSUE. BUT IF YOU'VE GOT THAT MUCH GOING THAT'S
2 STARTED MOVING TOWARDS COMMON GROUND. I'M ASKING AND THEN THAT
3 WHY PEOPLE ARE SCREAMING LIKE THIS, THESE ARE WORKING PEOPLE.
4 THEY'RE SCARED. PEOPLE ARE SCARED. THEY HAVE CAR WRECKS ON THE
5 FREEWAY. THEY'RE SCARED. MOST OF THESE FOLKS DON'T HAVE
6 INSURANCE. THEY'RE SCARED. THEIR BABIES ARE DYING. THEY'RE
7 SCARED. THEY MADE AK-47 AND OOZIES LEGAL AGAIN, THEY'RE
8 SCARED. SO THEY AIN'T GOING TO BE RATIONAL ABOUT SOMEBODY
9 ELSE'S HEALTHCARE, THEY'RE SCARED TO DEATH. SO WE MUST RELIEVE
10 THEM OF THEM FEAR AND YOU CAN'T JUST DO IT WITH NUMBERS. THEY
11 NEED TO BE UNDERSTOOD IN WAYS, THEY'RE SCREAMING BECAUSE
12 THEY'RE IRRATIONAL, IT'S THEY'RE SCREAMING BECAUSE THEY'RE
13 SCARED, AND SOME OF THAT FEAR IS JUSTIFIED. OVER AND OVER THEY
14 FACE PREDATORS EVERY DAY, THEY PAY MORE FOR CARS, THEY PAY
15 MORE FOR INSURANCE, THEIR KIDS ARE THE FIRST TO GO TO THE WAR,
16 THEY DIE IN IRAQ, THEY DIE ON THESE STREETS. THEY HAVE A CASE
17 TO BE MADE. THIS HOSPITAL WAS BORN WITH THAT KIND OF PAIN. IT
18 CAME OUT OF THE FIRES OF WATTS. WE CAN'T COME BACK 40 YEARS
19 LATER AND ALL OF A SUDDEN GET RATIONAL OVER AN IRRATIONAL,
20 UNFUNDED DREAM IN THE FIRST PLACE. MY APPEAL TO YOU, SINCE
21 THERE IS A LOT OF THE COMMON GROUND, I WOULD NOT LOOK UPON YOU
22 AS ENEMIES, YOU ARE THE FOES AND WE'RE THE FRIENDS, WE'RE
23 TRAPPED TOGETHER, WE'RE IN THIS HOUSE TOGETHER. CAN'T WE
24 ARRIVE AT COMMON GROUND? THE MOST RATIONAL WAY TO DO IT IS FOR
25 YOU IS SIT, PEOPLE THAT YOU RESPECT WHO ARE YOUR PEERS WITH



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1 WHOM YOU MUST LIVE BEYOND THIS ISSUE, AND LET'S FIGURE OUT
2 WHAT ARE YOU REALLY SAYING THAT'S NOT BEING SAID, WHAT THEY'RE
3 REALLY SAYING. SO WHAT IS THE AGENDAS. I THINK WE'RE CLOSE.
4 BUT WE'RE PROBABLY NOT GOING TO SOLVE IT IN THIS SETTING,
5 BETWEEN US AND THIS AND THE PAIN AND THE PRESS, IT AIN'T GOING
6 TO STOP THAT WAY. SO IS IT COMPLETELY ILLEGAL TO HAVE
7 NEGOTIATION SESSIONS? DON'T YOU DO THAT WITH UNION -- DON'T
8 YOU NEGOTIATE WITH UNIONS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS?

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** I MEAN I THINK THE ISSUE HERE TODAY, WE'RE
11 HERE TO TAKE THE PUBLIC TESTIMONY, OBVIOUSLY THERE'S
12 SIGNIFICANT ISSUES BEING RAISED THAT WE EXPECT THAT OUR
13 DEPARTMENT OR THEIR EXPERTS TO RESPOND TO WHICH MAY ULTIMATELY
14 RESULT IN ADDITIONAL NEGOTIATIONS, BUT YOU CAN'T SAY TODAY
15 THAT YOU'RE GOING TO NEGOTIATE SOMETHING. I MEAN, I AGREE WITH
16 YOU, I THINK WE ARE CLOSE IN THE SENSE THAT WE BOTH, ALL OF US
17 WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE TRAUMA CENTER STAY OPEN AND TO SAVE ALL
18 OF THE HOSPITAL. OKAY?

19

20 **REVEREND JACKSON:** ALL RIGHT NOW, IF THAT'S THE CASE, I SIMPLY
21 DIRECT, WILL YOU POSTPONE THE VOTE TOMORROW? [INDISTINCT
22 VOICES]

23

24 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WE'RE NOT GOING TO COMMENT ON THAT RIGHT
25 NOW. [INTERJECTIONS]



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1

2 **REVEREND JACKSON:** THE PROBLEM THEN, THE REASON I RAISE THAT
3 AND NOT-- THE REASON I RAISE IT IS BECAUSE THAT'S LIKE YOU
4 HAVE THESE TOLERATION HEARINGS THAT PEOPLE TALK AND THEY BLOW
5 AND THEY VENT AND THEN YOU VOTE. NOW WE HEARD THEM, BUT YOU
6 REALLY DIDN'T HEAR THEM BECAUSE YOU STARTED WITH THE
7 CONCLUSION. AND IF YOU VOTE TO FUND HOSPITAL "X", YOU'RE GOING
8 TO UNFUND HOSPITAL "Y," AND PEOPLE CAN'T UNDERSTAND THAT. SO
9 IF YOU POSTPONE IT UNTIL --

10

11 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** MR. CHAIRMAN?

12

13 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** MR. CHAIRMAN?

14

15 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I DON'T MEAN TO INTERRUPT, BUT I THINK THAT
16 -- YES, I DID. NUMBER ONE, AND MY FEELINGS ARE RECIPROCAL WITH
17 THE REVEREND JACKSON, AND WE HAVE WORKED TOGETHER, AND ALL OF
18 US HAVE WORKED TOGETHER WITH HIM ON A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT
19 ISSUES IN THIS COMMUNITY. FIRST OF ALL, AND AT SOME POINT
20 AFTER WE ALL HAVE A CHANCE TO INTERACT, I HOPE WE'LL GET ON
21 WITH THE BEILENSON HEARING, WHICH IS WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR, BUT
22 I THINK IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE A COUPLE OF VIEWS.
23 FIRST OF ALL, AS DR. GARTHWAITE SAID, AND AS THE CHAIR SAID,
24 AND I'M GOING TO DO REPEAT IT, THE ISSUE OF CALIFORNIA MEDICAL



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1 CENTER HAS BEEN IN THE WORKS FOR MANY, MANY MONTHS, IF NOT
2 LONGER.

3

4 **SUP. BURKE:** ACTUALLY, THREE YEARS. THREE YEARS. THREE YEARS,
5 ACTUALLY.

6

7 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** AND WHETHER -- AND LISTEN, I'M SORRY. LET ME
8 FINISH. YOU MAY NOT WANT TO HEAR WHAT I HAVE TO SAY, BUT AT
9 LEAST MAYBE SOME ONE OR TWO PEOPLE MAY BE INTERESTED. IT'S
10 BEEN IN THE WORKS FOR A LONG TIME, AND WHETHER THE SUSPENSION
11 OF TRAUMA HERE OCCURS OR DOESN'T OCCUR DOES NOT CHANGE,
12 ABSOLUTELY DOES NOT CHANGE THE VALUE OF HAVING CALIFORNIA
13 MEDICAL CENTER IN THE TRAUMA SYSTEM. IT IS THE FIRST NEW
14 TRAUMA SYSTEM TO COME INTO OUR -- TRAUMA CENTER TO COME INTO
15 OUR TRAUMA SYSTEM IN OVER 15 YEARS, SO IT IS A VERY GOOD
16 THING. SO I'LL SPEAK FOR MYSELF. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THIS
17 POINT --

18

19 **REVEREND JACKSON:** BUT ZEV --

20

21 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** EXCUSE ME. LET ME FINISH.

22

23 **REVEREND JACKSON:** JUST ONE POINT, ZEV. HE SAID HE LAID OUT A
24 PLAN ON HOW MUCH EASY IT IS TO GET TO THE NEXT PLACE WHICH
25 SOUNDS LIKE THIS PLACE.



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1

2 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** YEAH. REVEREND JACKSON, WITH ALL DUE
3 RESPECT, THIS IS SOMETHING WE LIVE WITH EVERY DAY, AND IT'S
4 SOMETHING WE'VE BEEN ASPIRING TO DO, WE'VE BEEN ASPIRING TO DO
5 THIS FOR A LONG TIME, AND ONE OF THE GOOD THINGS THAT'S COME
6 OUT OF MEASURE B IS THAT IT HAS RESULTED IN THE FIRST TIME IN
7 OVER A DECADE AND A HALF IN A NEW TRAUMA CENTER, IN A NEW
8 TRAUMA CENTER, AND THAT'S A GOOD THING. [INTERJECTIONS]

9

10 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** SHHH. SHHH. OKAY. I'M GOING TO BE HEARD NO
11 MATTER HOW LONG THEY, SO OKAY LET ME JUST SAY MY PIECE. THAT'S
12 NUMBER ONE. NUMBER TWO, WE ARE CLOSE AND WE'RE NOT CLOSE.
13 NUMBER ONE, THERE IS NO DISPUTE ABOUT KEEPING THE HOSPITAL
14 OPEN ANYWHERE. HOSPITAL'S GOING TO STAY OPEN, ASSUMING THAT WE
15 CAN -- THAT THE ACCREDITING AGENCIES KEEP IT OPEN AND THAT THE
16 FUNDING AGENCIES KEEP IT OPEN. ASSEMBLY MEMBER DYMALLY IS IN
17 ERROR, I'M SORRY, ABOUT THE STATEMENT THAT ANY MEMBER OF THE
18 BOARD EVER SAID THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MADE A CONNECTION
19 BETWEEN CLOSING TRAUMA OR SUSPENDING TRAUMA AND KEEPING THE
20 FUNDING GOING. THAT'S NOT WHAT MR. FLICK SAID. [INTERJECTIONS
21]

22

23 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** NO, NO, YOU NEVER HEARD ME SAID THAT. NO LET
24 ME TELL YOU WHAT I SAID. [INTERJECTIONS]

25



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1 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** LET ME TELL YOU WHAT I SAID. [INTERJECTIONS
2]

3

4 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** THAT -- AND WHAT IS A MATTER OF PUBLIC
5 RECORD FOR MR. FLICK, AND I BELIEVE HE TOLD YOUR COMMITTEE
6 THIS, TOO, IS THAT UNLESS THE QUALITY OF CARE AT KING DREW WAS
7 BROUGHT UP TO A STANDARD AT THE CENTER FOR MEDICAL -- MEDICAID
8 AND MEDICARE SERVICES ACCEPTED, THAT THEY WOULD PULL THE
9 FUNDING, THEY WOULD PULL THE FUNDING FROM THIS HOSPITAL, AND
10 IF THEY PULLED THE FUNDING FROM THIS HOSPITAL, AS DR.
11 GARTHWAITE INDICATED, THIS HOSPITAL CANNOT SURVIVE. SO IT WAS
12 THAT, UNDER THAT PRESSURE, AND IT'S GOOD PRESSURE, AND IT'S
13 LONG OVERDUE, THAT WE RESPONDED TO SOME SORT OF PRESSURE,
14 BECAUSE WHAT I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM ANYBODY HERE YET TODAY,
15 MAYBE WE'LL HEAR IT, I DOUBT IT, BUT MAYBE WE WILL, IS THE
16 OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN, WHICH IS, IS ANYBODY HERE, IS ANYBODY
17 HERE, CONCERNED ABOUT THE QUALITY OF CARE AT THIS HOSPITAL? [
18 INTERJECTIONS]

19

20 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** NO?

21

22 **MAXINE WATERS:** SUPERVISOR, WHY DON'T YOU ASK MR. GARTHWAITE?
23 HE WAS IN CHARGE.

24

25 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** BELIEVE ME, BELIEVE ME --



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1

2 **MAXINE WATERS:** HE'S THE ONE THAT WAS MANAGING AND SUPERVISING
3 --

4

5 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** MAXINE, MAXINE, LET ME FINISH.

6

7 **MAXINE WATERS:** YEAH.

8

9 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** YOU'LL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO IT. [
10 INTERJECTIONS]

11

12 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** YOU'LL ALL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO
13 IT. BUT THIS IS NOT -- IT'S NOT SO SIMPLE AS THE TRAUMA/NO
14 TRAUMA. THE HOSPITAL'S GOING TO STAY OPEN. DR. GARTHWAITE'S
15 RECOMMENDATION -- [INTERJECTIONS]

16

17 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** DR. GARTHWAITE'S RECOMMENDATION, FOR BETTER
18 OR WORSE, WHETHER YOU AGREE WITH IT OR YOU DISAGREE WITH IT,
19 IS MOTIVATED BY THE DESIRE TO KEEP THE HOSPITAL OPEN. THE
20 TRAUMA CENTER -- [INTERJECTIONS]

21

22 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** THE TRAUMA CENTER ACCOUNTS FOR 4%, IF MY
23 MEMORY SERVES ME CORRECTLY, 4% OF THE ACTIVITY OF THIS
24 HOSPITAL. IT SEES 1,800 PATIENTS A YEAR, LAST TIME I HEARD THE
25 STATISTIC. THE EMERGENCY ROOM SEES 50,000?



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1

2 **DR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE:** 47.

3

4 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** 47,000 PEOPLE A YEAR. SO WHAT DR.

5 GARTHWAITE, AGAIN WHETHER YOU AGREE WITH HIM OR YOU DON'T

6 AGREE WITH HIM, AND REASONABLE PEOPLE CAN COME TO DIFFERENT

7 CONCLUSIONS, WHAT DR. GARTHWAITE HAS SAID IS IN ORDER TO SAVE

8 THE SERVICES FOR 47,000 PEOPLE A YEAR, TO SUSPEND THE ACTIVITY

9 AND REPLACE IT ELSEWHERE IN THE VICINITY OF THE 1,800 A YEAR.

10

11 **REVEREND JACKSON:** MAY I JUST MAKE --

12

13 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** AGAIN, NO.

14

15 **REVEREND JACKSON:** MAY I JUST MAKE ONE LAST POINT ZEV?

16

17 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** LET ME FINISH, LET ME FINISH.

18

19 **REVEREND JACKSON:** OKAY, ALL RIGHT.

20

21 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** AND I AM ALMOST FINISHED. THAT IS THE ISSUE.

22 THAT IS THE ISSUE. AND IT IS NOT AN ISSUE THAT CAN BE RESOLVED

23 IN THIS KIND OF A FORUM, AND IT'S NOT AN ISSUE THAT'S GOING TO

24 BE RESOLVED -- YOU MAY BE RIGHT IN ANY KIND OF FORUM. IT IS A



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1 MEDICAL ISSUE, REVEREND JACKSON. IT'S NOT A POLITICAL ISSUE,
2 EVEN THOUGH IT IS A POLITICAL ISSUE, TODAY. [INTERJECTIONS]
3

4 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** IT ISN'T, AT THE END OF THE DAY, AT THE END
5 OF THE DAY, WE HAVE TO RELY ON THE MEDICAL INPUT BECAUSE IT'S
6 THE MEDICAL CARE SYSTEM OF THE COUNTY AND OF THIS HOSPITAL
7 THAT SERVES THIS PART OF THE COUNTY THAT'S AT STAKE, AND SO
8 HIS PROPOSAL, AND I SAY AGAIN, I DON'T DISPARAGE ANYBODY WHO
9 DISAGREES WITH HIS PROPOSAL, I UNDERSTAND WHY PEOPLE MIGHT
10 DISAGREE WITH IT, BUT AT LEAST MAKE AN EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND
11 WHAT MOTIVATED IT. WHAT'S BEHIND HIS PROPOSAL, AND IF THERE'S
12 A BETTER PROPOSAL, WE'RE ALL EARS, AND THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE,
13 BUT IF -- WE HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE. WE HAVE WASTED TOO MANY
14 YEARS ON THIS AND WE NEED TO GET TO THE POINT WHERE THE
15 QUALITY OF SERVICE HERE, THAT THE LEVEL OF SERVICE HERE IS A
16 LEVEL OF EXCELLENT SERVICE, NOT MARGINAL SERVICE, AND IT'S GOT
17 TO BE BROUGHT UP TO A QUALITY OF SERVICE THAT IS COMPARABLE TO
18 WHAT THE OTHER PARTS OF THIS COUNTY GET. NONE OF US SHOULD
19 ACCEPT ANYTHING LESS. I THINK YOU WOULD AGREE WITH THAT.

20

21 **REVEREND JACKSON:** I THINK YOU'RE GETTING TO SOMETHING NOW, THE
22 ISSUE IS NOT THE NEWNESS OF A TRAUMA CENTER; IT'S THE NEARNESS
23 OF IT, AND THAT'S WHAT PEOPLE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE TRAUMA
24 CENTER BEING NEAR WHERE THEY GET SHOT.

25



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1 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I UNDERSTAND.

2

3 **REVEREND JACKSON:** NEAR WHERE THEY GET STABBED, NEAR WHERE THEY
4 HAVE CAR WRECKS. IF YOU BUILT THE NEW TRAUMA CENTER NEXT DOOR
5 TO THIS ONE AND CLOSED THIS ONE DOWN, THAT MIGHT BE A GOOD
6 DEAL, BUT TO JUST -- A NEW ONE BUT NOT A NEAR ONE, IT BECOMES
7 VERY EMOTIONAL, AND IN FACT I --

8

9 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** BUT A NEAR ONE THAT DOESN'T PROVIDE QUALITY
10 SERVICE IS ANOTHER PROBLEM. [INTERJECTIONS]

11

12 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** AND THAT'S THE ISSUE THAT WE FACE. THAT'S
13 WHAT WE HAVE TO WEIGH.

14

15 **REVEREND JACKSON:** NOW YOU'RE SETTING TO RAISING THAT, AND I'M
16 GOING TO SIT DOWN ON THIS ZEV, WHEN YOU DEAL WITH
17 INCOMPETENCE, THEN THAT MEANS EITHER YOU HAVE A MANAGEMENT
18 ISSUE OR YOU NEED MORE AND BETTER, MORE AND BETTER DOCTORS, IF
19 THAT'S THE CASE, AND MORE AND BETTER NURSES, IF THAT'S THE
20 CASE, THAT MEANS HIRING AND FUNDING THEM, IF THAT'S THE CASE,
21 BECAUSE NOW WE'VE GOT TWO BOOK ENDS. YOU WANT IT OPEN, THE
22 COMMUNITY WANT IT OPEN, YOU SAID RESOURCE IS NOT AN ISSUE, SO
23 LET'S FIND THE PEOPLE TO ACHIEVE THE STANDARD THAT WE SEEK.
24 NOW ZEV YOU KNOW THE DEBATE. [APPLAUSE]

25



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1 **REVEREND JACKSON:** ZEV YOU KNOW THE DEBATE ABOUT QUALITY OF
2 SERVICE, NOBODY WANTS TO BE MISDIAGNOSED. NO ONE WANTS PEOPLE
3 READING PRESCRIPTIONS WHO CAN'T READ PRESCRIPTIONS. SO NOBODY
4 IS FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHT TO TAKE POISON PILLS, BUT I JUST GOT
5 THE IMPRESSION, AND I WILL CLOSE, IS THAT THERE IS IN THIS
6 ROOM A WILL TO RESOLVE THIS, BUT MY SENSE IS THAT THE TWO BOOK
7 ENDS CAN'T COME TOGETHER UNLESS YOU WHO ARE OFFICIALS, WHO ARE
8 REASONABLE AND RATIONAL, HAMMER OUT HOW TO CLOSE THAT LAST
9 GAP. IF NOT AS IT BE FRIENDS AND FOES, WE'RE NOT FRIENDS AND
10 FOES, WE'RE REALLY FRIENDS AND FRIENDS ON THIS ISSUE, IF WE IN
11 FACT GIVE OURSELVES A CHANCE TO TALK IT OUT AND NOT FIGHT IT
12 OUT. I MAKE THAT APPEAL TO YOU. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

13

14 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. NEXT, WE'D INVITE YVONNE KING TO
15 SPEAK, PLEASE.

16

17 **MAXINE WATERS:** WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE
18 HER. IT IS APPROPRIATE THAT WE NOT ONLY INTRODUCE HER, BUT
19 GIVE HER THE RESPECT THAT SHE DESERVES. THE NAME OF THIS
20 HOSPITAL IS MARTIN LUTHER KING, NAMED FOR HER FATHER, THE
21 GREATEST CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER THAT EVER LIVED. YOLANDA KING AND
22 ALL OF THE KING FAMILY HAVE DEDICATED THEIR LIVES TO JUSTICE
23 AND EQUALITY FOR ALL PEOPLE. THEY ARE CARRYING ON IN THEIR OWN
24 WAY THE WORK OF THEIR FATHER. WE HONOR HIM AND WE HONOR THEM.
25 SHE IS A RESIDENT OF LOS ANGELES. SHE HAS BEEN READING AND SHE



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1 HAS BEEN WATCHING. SHE IS PROUD OF THIS HOSPITAL AND WHAT IT
2 STANDS FOR. SHE WANTS IT TO BE THE VERY BEST PLACE THAT IT CAN
3 POSSIBLY BE. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I ASK YOU TO RECEIVE
4 YOLANDA KING, THE ELDEST DAUGHTER OF CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER,
5 MARTIN LUTHER KING. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

6

7 **YOLANDA KING:** THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH, CONGRESSWOMAN WATERS. I
8 WOULD LIKE TO FIRST THANK THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE
9 OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO YOU IN OPPOSITION TO THE CLOSING OF
10 THE TRAUMA CENTER AT KING DREW HOSPITAL. AS A RESIDENT OF LOS
11 ANGELES, I, LIKE OTHER RESIDENTS, HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY
12 AWARE OF THE RECENT EFFORT TO CLOSE THE TRAUMA CENTER. AS YOU
13 WOULD UNDERSTAND, THIS HOSPITAL HOLDS A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY
14 HEART, FOR MANY REASONS. AMONG THEM IS, OF COURSE, ITS NAME,
15 FOR IT BEARS THE NAMESAKE OF MY FATHER. THROUGHOUT THE
16 COUNTRY, SCHOOLS, BUILDINGS, RECREATIONAL PARKS, MAJOR
17 STREETS, HAVE THE NAME "KING," AND ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, THIS
18 NAME REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL AND HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE
19 SYNONYMOUS WITH STRENGTH, COURAGE, INTEGRITY, AND SERVICE.
20 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BOULEVARDS, AVENUES AND FACILITIES ALL
21 OVER THE NATION SERVE AS VIRTUAL SIGN POSTS TO THE AFRICAN-
22 AMERICAN COMMUNITY. OFTEN THESE AVENUES, PARKS AND BUILDINGS
23 SERVE AS GEOGRAPHIC AND EMOTIONAL RALLYING POINTS FOR
24 UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES, PROVIDING AN OFTEN UNDERESTIMATED
25 LINK TO THE STRUGGLES AND PRIDE OF PREVIOUS GENERATIONS. THE



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1 KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER CONTINUES THIS PROUD TRADITION, WHICH
2 ILLUMINATES THE VIRTUES OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT THROUGH
3 TIMELY, CULTURALLY SENSITIVE AND OFTEN LIFE SAVING TREATMENT.
4 THE WATTS RIOT IN 1965 WERE A RESULT OF YEARS OF BUILT-UP
5 PRESSURES FELT BY THE POOR COMMUNITY IN THE WATTS WILLOWBROOK
6 AREA. FOR YEARS NUMEROUS VOICES FROM THE VARIOUS SECTORS OF
7 THIS DIVERSE COMMUNITY AND ALL OF THE RESIDENTS IN BETWEEN
8 BEMOANED THE LACK OF PRACTICAL SERVICES IN THIS AREA OF LOS
9 ANGELES. ONE OF THE LARGEST AREAS OF CONCERN WAS OF COURSE THE
10 ABSENCE OF A FUNCTIONAL HEALTHCARE FACILITY IN THE AREA. AFTER
11 THE WATTS REBELLION, GOVERNOR PAT BROWN APPOINTED THE MCCONE
12 COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE CAUSE OF THE RIOTS. THE
13 COMMISSION SUGGESTED THAT ONE OF THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTING
14 FACTORS WAS THE LACK OF VIABLE HEALTHCARE FACILITIES,
15 SPECIFICALLY A FACILITY WITH THE CAPACITY TO HANDLE THE MOST
16 TRAUMATIC CASES. TWO OF THE MOST POWERFUL THINGS THAT CAME OUT
17 OF THE MCCONE REPORTS WERE THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT THERE WAS
18 A LACK OF HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN THIS AREA AND, TWO, ITS
19 PROPOSED REMEDY, THE HEALTHCARE FACILITY THAT BECAME KING
20 DREW. WITH THE WORK OF PEOPLE LIKE THE LATE KENNETH HAHN,
21 ASSEMBLYMAN MERVYN DYMALLY AND THE -- AND COMMUNITY ACTIVIST,
22 LILLIAN MOBLEY, THE HOSPITAL BROKE GROUND SIX DAYS AFTER MY
23 FATHER'S ASSASSINATION. THE VOICES THAT SPOKE WITH PASSION,
24 CLARITY, AND A TANGIBLE KNOWLEDGE OF THE NEEDS OF THIS
25 COMMUNITY IN 1965 RISE UP ANEW HERE IN PROTEST AND SOLIDARITY



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1 TO OPPOSE THE CLOSING OF THIS TRAUMA CENTER. I AM ENERGIZED BY
2 THE VOICES OF THE DOCTORS AND STAFF AT KING DREW WHO, BY YOUR
3 OWN ADMISSION, ARE EXPERTS IN TRAUMA. I AM ENERGIZED BECAUSE,
4 THROUGH THEIR TESTIMONY, TESTIMONY THAT HINGES ON THE
5 UNWAVERING BELIEF THAT CLOSING THIS TRAUMA CENTER WILL COST
6 LIVES, I KNOW THAT I AM ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THIS FIGHT. I AM
7 ENTHUSED BECAUSE TODAY, AS I LOOK IN YOUR FACES, I KNOW THAT
8 YOU WILL NOT UNDERMINE THE MISSION OF KING DREW HOSPITAL, NOR
9 WILL YOU IGNORE THE MANDATE SET FORTH BY THOSE COMMISSIONERS
10 AND OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS THAT HAVE COME BEFORE YOU. I FEEL
11 LIFTED UP BECAUSE, AS I WALK THROUGH THE CROWD OF THOUSANDS
12 OUTSIDE, I AM CONFIDENT THAT THEY WILL HOLD YOU ACCOUNTABLE AS
13 THEY DID THE COUNTY SUPERVISORS OF THE PAST TO DO RIGHT. [
14 APPLAUSE]

15

16 **YOLANDA KING:** TO DO RIGHT BY THIS COMMUNITY. I AM TOLD THAT
17 THE CLOSING OF THE TRAUMA CENTER IS BASED AROUND THE LOOSE
18 LOGIC OF DECOMPRESSION, MEANING THAT BY CLOSING THE TRAUMA
19 CENTER, ARGUABLY THE MOST VITAL AND FUNCTIONAL UNIT OF THE
20 HOSPITAL, MORE RESOURCES WOULD THEN BE AVAILABLE FOR THE REST
21 OF THE HOSPITAL. NOW I AM NO EXPERT, BUT THE KNOWLEDGE THAT I
22 HAVE GAINED FROM HISTORY TELLS ME THAT IF THIS HOSPITAL WAS
23 BUILT AS A COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER, ONE THAT WAS PUT IN
24 THE COMMUNITY IN RESPONSE TO WIDESPREAD HEALTHCARE
25 INADEQUACIES, ONE OF WHICH IS DIRECTLY ADDRESSED BY THE TRAUMA



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1 CENTER, AND THAT THEREBY CLOSING THIS WING OF THE HOSPITAL
2 WOULD NOT ONLY COMPROMISE THE MISSION, BUT ALSO THE FUNCTION
3 OF THIS HOSPITAL AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, WOULD COST LIVES. I
4 COME HERE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT KING DREW HAS SUFFERED
5 FROM A VARIETY OF CHALLENGES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO
6 NURSING SHORTAGES, A LACK OF RESOURCES, BUT LET US NOT CREATE
7 NEW TRAUMA CENTERS FURTHER AWAY FROM THE EPICENTER OF THE
8 VICTIMS, AS WOULD BE THE CASE WITH THE PROPOSED CALIFORNIA
9 HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER TRAUMA UNIT. RATHER, LET US REALLY
10 GIVE KING DREW THE FULL FINANCIAL, TRAINING AND HUMAN CAPITAL
11 IT NEEDS TO SERVE THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY. [APPLAUSE]

12

13 **YOLANDA KING:** WE HAVE MANY CHALLENGES BEFORE US. WE MUST FIND
14 A WAY TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS OF NURSE RECRUITMENT, OF
15 TRAINING AND RETENTION AND INNOVATIVE WAYS MUST BE CREATED TO
16 DIRECT AND REDIRECT RESOURCES TO THIS HOSPITAL. BUT ABOVE ALL,
17 OUR MOST PRESSING CHALLENGE IS TO BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO THE
18 TRAUMA CENTER AT KING DREW. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE SHOULD WE
19 ALLOW KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER TO BE CLOSED. HEALTHCARE IS
20 LINKED TO THE ETHOS OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, IN FACT,
21 HEALTHCARE IS A CORNERSTONE OF CIVIL RIGHTS, FOR IT SPANS
22 ACROSS STRUGGLES FOR LABOR RIGHTS, LIVING WAGE, GENDER RIGHTS,
23 ECONOMIC EQUALITY, AND RACIAL PARITY. THEREFORE, MR. CHAIRMAN
24 AND THE BOARD, WE FIND IT ACCEPTABLE AND INTOLERABLE THAT THIS
25 BODY WOULD ALIGN ITSELF WITH POLICIES AND POLICY MAKERS THAT



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1 WOULD DENY THE AVERAGE HARD WORKING CITIZEN OF THE WATTS
2 WILLOWBROOK COMMUNITY ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICE IN THEIR MOST
3 URGENT TIMES OF NEED. I THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO
4 SPEAK MY PIECE. THANK YOU.

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** NEXT -- [APPLAUSE CONTINUES]

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. NEXT I'LL CALL ON
11 SENATOR GIL CEDILLO, FOLLOWED BY L.A. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER,
12 JANICE HAHN. FOR THOSE OF YOU THAT ARE STANDING AND WAITING TO
13 SPEAK, WE'VE GOT AN ORDER. IF YOU'VE FILLED OUT A CARD, WE'LL
14 CALL YOU, OKAY, IF YOU'VE FILLED OUT A FORM. SENATOR?

15

16 **SENATOR GIL CEDILLO:** SUPERVISORS, MR. KNABE, MS. BURKE, MS.
17 MOLINA, SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY, MR. ANTONOVICH, LET ME THANK
18 YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS YOU AND LET ME SAY TO YOU
19 THAT I HAVE SUCH TREMENDOUS RESPECT FOR YOU, FOR YOUR
20 INTELLIGENCE, FOR YOUR COMMITMENT, AND FOR THE VERY, VERY
21 DIFFICULT JOB THAT YOU HAVE. LET ME THANK THE REVEREND JESSE
22 JACKSON, WHO IS ALWAYS THE FIRST PERSON CALLED UPON WHENEVER
23 THERE'S A CRISIS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD. THANK YOU, MAXINE
24 WATERS AND MY COLLEAGUE, MERV DYMALLY, FOR YOUR TREMENDOUS
25 LEADERSHIP ON THIS ISSUE. LET ME BE BRIEF, CONCISE, SUCCINCT



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1 AND SAY YOU CANNOT, ABSOLUTELY NOT, CLOSE THIS TRAUMA CENTER.

2 [APPLAUSE]

3

4 **SENATOR GIL CEDILLO:** FOR TOO MANY OF US, THE BEGINNING OF THE
5 CLOSURE SIGNALS A PROCESS OF DISMANTLING OF THE LEGACY OF
6 MARTIN LUTHER KING, THE CLOSING OF THIS TRAUMA CENTER HAS A
7 GREATER SYMBOLIC VALUE THAN A POLICY VALUE, A GREATER
8 MEANINGFUL VALUE FOR THE LIVES OF US WHO LIVE HERE IN THE
9 COMMUNITY THAN IT DOES FINANCIAL VALUE. IT MEANS SO MUCH TO
10 EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US. WE ARE LIVING HERE AMONGST GIANT
11 LEADERS. IRMA REED, LILLIAN MOBLEY, SWEET ALICE HARRIS, PEOPLE
12 WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES TO THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE SURE THAT
13 EVERY PERSON WHO LIVES HERE HAS A MODICUM OF DIGNITY AND
14 RESPECT. AND SO LET ME SAY AGAIN THAT YOU CANNOT, ABSOLUTELY
15 NOT, CLOSE THIS TRAUMA CENTER. IT IS -- [APPLAUSE]

16

17 **SENATOR GIL CEDILLO:** WE HAVE DONE SO MUCH TOGETHER IN THE
18 PAST, I AM SO PROUD TO BE PART OF THE COUNTY FAMILY, THE
19 COUNTY HISTORY, OUR EFFORTS TO SAVE OLIVE VIEW, TO SAVE MARTIN
20 LUTHER KING, TO SAVE L.A. U.S.C. IN THE '90S WAS JUST PART OF
21 THE MOST BRILLIANT COLLECTIVE HISTORY OF OUR REGION. WORKING
22 IN THIS COALITION WITH LOCAL 660 AND THE COMMUNITY AND YOUR
23 LEADERSHIP, WE DID WHAT MANY PEOPLE SAID WE COULDN'T DO. AND
24 SO I'M A LITTLE PERPLEXED THAT WE'RE HERE TODAY WHEN IN FACT
25 WE SAVED OUR ENTIRE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM AGAINST ALL ODDS IN THE



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1 '90S AND AGAINST TREMENDOUS, TREMENDOUS CHALLENGES OF
2 RESOURCES. AND SO I KNOW WE'RE PERPLEXED TODAY BECAUSE THOSE
3 OF US WHO ARE SITTING HERE ARE SAYING, "WAIT A MINUTE, YOU
4 WANT TO KEEP MARTIN LUTHER KING OPEN, YOU WANT TO PRESERVE THE
5 QUALITY OF SERVICES AND THE TRAUMA CENTER, AND SO DO WE." AND
6 RESOURCES AREN'T THE CHALLENGE. AND SO LET ME SAY TO YOU AGAIN
7 THAT YOU CANNOT, ABSOLUTELY NOT, CLOSE MARTIN LUTHER KING. AND
8 LET ME SAY WHY. LET ME SAY WHY AND LET ME SAY WHY I THINK THAT
9 WHAT WE CAN GO -- WHERE WE CAN GO FROM HERE. WHILE IT IS TRUE
10 THAT ONLY 4% OF THE HOSPITAL INTAKE COMES THROUGH THE TRAUMA
11 CENTER, IT IS THE SECOND LARGEST TRAUMA CENTER IN THE REGION.
12 AND IT MATCHES AND PARALLELS L.A.C./U.S.C., BIG "G," WHICH IS
13 ABOUT TWICE THE SIZE. AND SO WE HAVE THAT SCENARIO AND THEN WE
14 HAVE PROP B. PROP B, AS IT WAS READ, STATED VERY CLEARLY IT
15 WAS PAST PRESERVE, PRESERVE, PRESERVE, MEANING PRESERVE AND
16 MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO, AND -- [APPLAUSE]

17
18 **SENATOR GIL CEDILLO:** -- AND AUGMENT THE TRAUMA NETWORK, NOT TO
19 DISPLACE, NOT TO MANEUVER OR MANIPULATE, BUT TO AUGMENT THE
20 TRAUMA NETWORK. THAT MEANS TO MAKE THOSE CONTRACTS SOMEWHAT
21 APPROPRIATE, HIRE MORE SURGEONS, HIRE MORE NURSES, ENTER INTO
22 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS AND TERMS OF CONTRACTS, AND
23 BUILD AND BUTTRESS THIS NETWORK. [INTERJECTIONS]



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1 **SENATOR GIL CEDILLA:** MORE QUALITY CARE. WITH RESPECT TO
2 BEILENSEN, BEILENSEN IS A DUE PROCESS LEGAL REQUIREMENT THAT
3 WE HAVE. THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE. BUT IT MUST TAKE PLACE BEFORE
4 DECISIONS ARE MADE. AND SO TO THE EXTENT THAT THERE'S ANY
5 CONNECTION, LINK, ANY EVEN COINCIDENCE THAT IT MAY BE SOME
6 SCENARIO, CALIFORNIA WOULD DISPLACE THE M.L.K. TRAUMA CENTER
7 WITH SUBSTITUTE SERVICES FOR THE M.L.K. TRAUMA CENTER, THEN
8 YOU RIP OUT THE SUBSTANTIVE MEANING OF BEILENSEN AND YOU MAKE
9 THIS REALLY A, I DON'T WANT TO SAY, BUT, YOU KNOW, IN SOME
10 RESPECTS, A SHAM OF A HEARING. [APPLAUSE]

11

12 **SENATOR GIL CEDILLO:** AND I KNOW THAT THAT'S NOT YOUR
13 INTENTION. I KNOW THAT YOU'RE ALL HONORABLE PEOPLE CONCERNED
14 WITH RESOLVING THIS PROBLEM, SO YOU MUST, TOMORROW, YOU MUST
15 NOT PROCEED WITH THE EFFORTS TO GRANT A CONTRACT AND TO ENGAGE
16 IN CALIFORNIA, BECAUSE IT IS TOO CLOSE, EVEN IN COINCIDENCE,
17 LET ALONE SOME NEXUS OR SOME POSSIBILITY THAT SOME PATIENT
18 THAT SHOULD COME HERE WOULD GO THERE. IT WOULD BREACH THE
19 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS BEILENSEN HEARING, OKAY. AND THERE ARE --
20 THERE ARE SUCH PROFOUND LIFE EXPERIENCES WITH RESPECT TO THIS
21 QUESTION OF PROXIMITY. SINCE OUR LAST HEARING, I WAS
22 APPROACHED BY A YOUNG MAN. I WAS AT AN EVENT, A YOUNG MAN
23 COMES UP TO ME AND SAYS, "SIR, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR
24 SPEAKING OUT," A YOUNG LATINO MAN, A GRADUATE STUDENT,
25 U.C.L.A. AND HE SAYS, "I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR FIGHTING FOR



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1 MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL AND FOR THE TRAUMA CENTER," HE
2 SAYS, "BECAUSE YOU SEE HERE? I WAS SHOT, AND I LIVE HERE BY
3 THE GRACE OF GOD, AND BY THE GRACE OF THOSE WHO WORK AT MARTIN
4 LUTHER KING TRAUMA CENTER." [APPLAUSE]

5

6 **SENATOR GIL CEDILLO:** AND SO TODAY, HE PREPARES FOR GRADUATION
7 FROM THE U.C.L.A. GRADUATE SCHOOL AND WILL COME BACK TO THE
8 COMMUNITY TO WORK AS A SOCIAL WORKER TO MAKE SURE THAT THERE'S
9 NO OTHER ACCIDENTAL VICTIMS OF A DRIVE-BY. I HAVE A SISTER-IN-
10 LAW WHO LIVES TODAY, SHE WAS WORKING, AN EMPLOYER, HAD HEALTH
11 INSURANCE. SHE GOT ANOTHER JOB, SHE DIDN'T INVEST, SHE DIDN'T
12 MEET THE PERIOD, AND SO GUESS WHAT, SHE WAS PART OF THOSE
13 WORKING PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE INSURANCE. AND SO SHE HAD AN --
14 AND THEY SAID, "GET COBRA, BUY SOMETHING, YOU KNOW, SOMETHING
15 MAY HAPPEN TO YOU," WHO THINKS ABOUT IT, THAT SOMETHING IS
16 GOING TO HAPPEN TO US TONIGHT AND WE WON'T BE HERE TOMORROW.
17 ONLY GOD KNOWS. AND SO SHE DOES NOT BUY THE COBRA AND, GUESS
18 WHAT, SHE GETS AN ANEURYSM, AND SHE GETS SAVED AT MARTIN
19 LUTHER KING TRAUMA CENTER. [APPLAUSE]

20

21 **SENATOR GIL CEDILLO:** JUST INCREDIBLE, INCREDIBLE STORY. HER
22 SON PROTECTS THE PRESIDENT. THAT IS THE MAGNITUDE, THE REACH,
23 THE BREADTH, THE DEPTH OF THIS CENTER FOR THE WORLD. AND SO
24 YOU CANNOT, ABSOLUTELY NOT, CLOSE MARTIN LUTHER KING CENTER.
25 WE'VE DONE SO MUCH TOGETHER. WE SAVED THIS ENTIRE HEALTHCARE



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1 NETWORK IN THE '90S WITHOUT AN AGREEMENT AND WITHOUT
2 RESOURCES, BUT WE CAME TOGETHER AND WE SAVED THIS CENTER AND
3 WE SAVED THE WHOLE NETWORK. SAVING M.L.K. TRAUMA CENTER SHOULD
4 NOT BE THAT DIFFICULT. I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT TO DO IT. CLEARLY
5 THE COMMUNITY DOESN'T WANT TO DO IT, AND SO I SAY TO YOU AND
6 OFFER AGAIN, ALL THE RESOURCES OF THE STATE, BOTH ITS
7 INTELLECTUAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES THAT WE CAN OFFER UP, TO WORK
8 WITH YOU ON AN EFFORT TO SAVE THE CENTER, BECAUSE YOU CANNOT,
9 YOU CANNOT, AND YOU CAN NOT, ABSOLUTELY NOT, CLOSE MARTIN
10 LUTHER KING TRAUMA CENTER. I THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE
11]

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE CONTINUES]

14

15 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** COUNCIL MEMBER HAHN AND THEN COUNCIL MEMBER
16 LUDLOW, AND THEN --

17

18 **JANICE HAHN:** THANK YOU, CHAIRMAN KNABE, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD,
19 FOR HOLDING THIS BEILENSEN HEARING. ALL WE'RE ASKING IS THAT
20 THIS HEARING BE FAIR, BE OPEN, BE HONEST, AND THAT, IN FACT,
21 YOU WILL LISTEN TO ALL THE CONCERNS, ALL THE FEAR, ALL THE
22 DREAD OF WHAT THE CONSEQUENCE OF THIS TRAUMA CENTER BEING
23 CLOSED AND ADDRESS THOSE CONCERNS BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR
24 DECISION. IT WAS A GREAT HONOR TO HAVE THE DAUGHTER OF MARTIN
25 LUTHER KING HERE, YOLANDA KING. HER AND I WERE YOUNG WOMEN



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1 WHEN MY FATHER CALLED HER MOTHER AND SAID THAT THE DECISION
2 WAS TO NAME THIS HOSPITAL AFTER HER LATE HUSBAND, AND HER
3 MOTHER CAME HERE AND I STOOD WITH HER AS WE DEDICATED AND
4 BROKE THE GROUND FOR THIS HOSPITAL. ALL WE'RE ASKING IS THAT
5 YOU DELAY YOUR DECISION, NOT ONE WEEK, NOT TWO WEEKS, BUT WHAT
6 WE'RE ASKING IS THAT YOU DELAY THIS DECISION UNTIL WE'VE HAD A
7 SECOND OPINION. [APPLAUSE]

8

9 **JANICE HAHN:** WE BELIEVE DR. GARTHWAITE HAS MADE THE
10 RECOMMENDATION TO CLOSE THIS TRAUMA CENTER, BUT WE BELIEVE
11 THAT IS THE WRONG DECISION AND WE BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE OTHER
12 OPINIONS OUT THERE, OTHER MEDICAL OPINIONS FROM HEALTHCARE
13 PROFESSIONALS, FROM DOCTORS, FROM NURSES, FROM PARAMEDICS, WHO
14 WILL SAY THAT THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO SAVE THIS HOSPITAL
15 WITHOUT CLOSING THE TRAUMA CENTER. [APPLAUSE]

16

17 **JANICE HAHN:** ALL WE WANT IS FOR YOU TO SAY TO DR. GARTHWAITE
18 AND OTHERS, IS THERE ANOTHER WAY TO FIX THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE
19 BEEN IDENTIFIED AT KING DREW HOSPITAL WITHOUT CLOSING THE
20 TRAUMA CENTER. WE DON'T THINK YOU'VE ASKED THAT QUESTION YET.
21 AND WE BELIEVE THAT ALL OF THE PEOPLE HAVE NOT BEEN AT THE
22 TABLE YET, AND I THINK THAT'S WHAT THE REVEREND JESSE JACKSON
23 WAS ASKING, CAN YOU MAKE SURE THAT WHILE YOU'RE MAKING THIS
24 DECISION, WHILE YOU'RE LISTENING TO YOUR 13-MILLION-DOLLAR
25 CONSULTANT, NAVIGANT, THAT -- [INTERJECTIONS]



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1

JANICE HAHN: -- THAT YOU WILL MAKE SURE THAT WE ALSO HAVE THE DOCTORS AND THE NURSES AND THE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS THERE WHO WILL HELP YOU SOLVE THIS PROBLEM WITHOUT CLOSING THE TRAUMA CENTER. I'VE BEEN ACCUSED OF WANTING TO PROTECT THE STATUS QUO. I'VE BEEN ACCUSED OF TRYING TO PROTECT LESS THAN EXCELLENT CARE AT THIS HOSPITAL. NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH FROM ME, AND I THINK THOSE OF YOU WHO KNOW ME KNOW THAT, AND IF BY THE STATUS QUO WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A SHORTAGE OF NURSES, NO HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR ON THE PREMISES, DECISIONS BEING MADE FROM DOWNTOWN AND NOT AT THE HOSPITAL, IS THAT THE STATUS QUO? BECAUSE I'M NOT -- I DON'T WANT TO PROTECT THAT STATUS QUO. I THINK ALL OF US DESERVE, THIS COMMUNITY DESERVES, IN FACT, ALL THE RESIDENTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY DESERVE, THAT ALL OF YOUR HOSPITALS PROVIDE EXCELLENT, FULL SERVICE, HEALTHCARE TO WHOEVER NEEDS IT, AND WHILE I KNOW THE EMERGENCY ROOM TAKES 45,000 PATIENTS A YEAR AND THE TRAUMA CENTER ONLY TAKES ABOUT 2,000 A YEAR, CLOSING THE TRAUMA CENTER DOESN'T PREVENT TRAUMA CASES FROM COMING INTO THAT HOSPITAL. [APPLAUSE]

21

JANICE HAHN: AS WE KNOW, THEY WALK IN, THEY'RE DROPPED OFF BY THEIR FRIENDS. MANY TRAUMA PATIENTS COME IN THROUGH THE EMERGENCY ROOM, SO THEIR LIVES WILL BE PUT IN MORE JEOPARDY IF THE TRAUMA CENTER IS CLOSED AND YET THEY'RE STILL COMING INTO



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1 THIS EMERGENCY ROOM THAT'S OPEN. THOSE QUESTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN
2 FULLY ANSWERED, IN MY OPINION. TODAY, WE HAVE IN THE AUDIENCE,
3 AND I HOPE HE SPEAKS, DR. BRIAN HUBBARD. FINALLY, THE LOS
4 ANGELES TIMES WROTE A GOOD ARTICLE ABOUT THIS HOSPITAL.
5 FINALLY, THE L.A. TIMES TALKED ABOUT LEROY UPRIGHT, WHO WAS
6 WALKING WITH HIS FRIENDS NEAR CRENSHAW AND SLAUSSEN WHEN HE
7 WAS SHOT IN THE BACK. THE AMBULANCE TOOK HIM TO THE NEAREST
8 TRAUMA CENTER, WHICH WAS KING DREW, AND TRAUMA SURGEON, BRIAN
9 HUBBARD, HEROICALLY SAVED HIS LIFE. HE WAS BLEEDING TO DEATH.
10 HE ARRIVED AT THE HOSPITAL TRAUMA CENTER WITH BARELY A LITER
11 OF BLOOD LEFT IN HIS BODY. HE'D ARRIVED THERE 39 MINUTES AFTER
12 HE'D BEEN SHOT, AND HAD THIS TRAUMA CENTER BEEN CLOSED, THE
13 NOTE ON THE DOOR SAYING, "GO SOMEWHERE ELSE," LEROY PROBABLY
14 WOULD HAVE BEEN DIED -- WOULD HAVE DIED. THIS TRAUMA CENTER,
15 THIS TRAUMA SURGEON HAS SAVED 900 LEROYS JUST LAST YEAR. [
16 CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

17

18 **JANICE HAHN:** WE WANT YOU TO LOOK AT ANOTHER PLAN. WE THINK A
19 PLAN HAS BEEN PRESENTED THAT'S SUPPORTED BY DOCTORS AND
20 NURSES. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM DR. GARTHWAITE NOT A
21 RECOMMENDATION TO CLOSE THIS TRAUMA CENTER, BUT WHAT WE WANT
22 TO HEAR FROM HIM IS A STRATEGY ON HOW WE BEGIN RECRUITING AND
23 PAYING FOR THE PROFESSIONAL NURSES AND DOCTORS THAT THIS
24 TRAUMA CENTER NEEDS TO REMAIN OPEN, BUT KEEP AN OPEN MIND.
25 DON'T CLOSE THE TRAUMA CENTER, PLEASE. [APPLAUSE]



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1

2 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** COUNCIL MEMBER LUDLOW, THEN COUNCIL MEMBER
3 VILLA REGOSA.

4

5 **COUNCILMEMBER LUDLOW:** THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. FIRST OF ALL,
6 LET ME SAY THAT I APPRECIATE YOUR FLEXIBILITY AND THE MANNER
7 IN WHICH YOU'VE RUN THE HEARING TODAY, HEARING -- GIVING
8 CONGRESSWOMAN WATERS AMPLE TIME TO EXPRESS HERSELF AND
9 REVEREND JACKSON. WE APPRECIATE YOUR FLEXIBILITY IN THE
10 HEARING. I ALSO WANT TO SAY TO YVONNE BURKE THAT I APPRECIATE
11 THE COURAGE THAT YOU'VE DISPLAYED TO VOTE IN OPPOSITION TO THE
12 MAJORITY ON THE BOARD. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF US IN THE
13 COMMUNITY THAT THANK YOU FOR THAT "NO" VOTE AND -- [APPLAUSE
14]

15

16 **COUNCILMEMBER LUDLOW:** -- TWICE IN THE LAST MONTH, I'VE
17 INTRODUCED MOTIONS ON THE FLOOR OF THE L.A. CITY COUNCIL. BOTH
18 OF THOSE MOTIONS HAVE SPOKEN TO THE CITY'S OPPOSITION TO THE
19 CLOSURE OF THIS TRAUMA CENTER, AND ON TWO OCCASIONS, ON A
20 UNANIMOUS VOTE, THE CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTING 3.9 MILLION
21 PEOPLE HAVE VOTED IN TOTAL OPPOSITION TO THE DECISION THAT
22 YOU'VE MADE TO CLOSE THIS TRAUMA CENTER DOWN, AND I THINK IT'S
23 IMPORTANT THAT YOU RECOGNIZE HOW DEEP THOSE FEELINGS ARE
24 THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF L.A., BECAUSE PEOPLE ON THE WEST SIDE
25 UNDERSTAND, AND I THINK IF YOU WOULD TAKE A MOMENT TO LISTEN



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1 TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR, TRAUMA CENTER, MEDICAL DIRECTORS WHO
2 ARE PETRIFIED, THEY ARE PETRIFIED, THEY RECOGNIZE THAT THEY'RE
3 ALREADY OPERATING BEYOND THE BRINK OF DISASTER, AND TO SIT BY
4 AND WATCH YOU DISMANTLE WHAT HAS BEEN, BY MANY ARGUMENTS, THE
5 CORNERSTONE OF THE COUNTY'S TRAUMA CENTER, HAS THEM LITERALLY
6 PETRIFIED AND THEY ARE VERY, VERY OUTRAGED AT THE DECISION
7 THAT THEY BELIEVE YOU HAVE ALREADY MADE NOTWITHSTANDING
8 TODAY'S HEARING. NOW, TODAY, YOU'VE HEARD SOME VERY PASSIONATE
9 TESTIMONY, GLORIA. I DON'T KNOW WHERE ZEV WENT. [
10 INTERJECTIONS]

11

12 **COUNCILMEMBER LUDLOW:** BUT SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY, I HOPE YOU
13 MAKE IT BACK HERE IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF MINUTES, BECAUSE WHAT
14 I'M NOT GOING TO DO TODAY IS TRY TO OUT POLITICIZE YOU AND, IN
15 FACT, THE DEMEANOR THAT REVEREND JACKSON LEFT US IN WAS
16 PERHAPS THE MOST HELPFUL DEMEANOR. IT WAS A DEMEANOR OF
17 COLLEGIALITY, IT WAS A DEMEANOR OF DISCUSSION, AND I KNOW I AM
18 ONE THAT HAS NOT RECEIVED A SINGLE PHONE CALL FROM THIS BOARD
19 OF SUPERVISORS ASKING ME, REPRESENTING 250,000 PEOPLE IN THE
20 CITY OF L.A., FOR ASSISTANCE.

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WHO CALLED YOU?

23

24 **COUNCILMEMBER LUDLOW:** I HAVEN'T RECEIVED THAT CALL. I HAVEN'T
25 RECEIVED THE CALL. NOW, DON, I WILL SAY WITH ALL DUE RESPECT,



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1 MY APPRECIATION TO YOU THIS WEEKEND, WHERE YOU MADE A PHONE
2 CALL THIS WEEKEND IN CONTEXT OF HOW TO RUN TODAY'S HEARING, WE
3 ALL APPRECIATE THAT PHONE CALL, DON, AND YOU'VE BEEN VERY OPEN
4 IN ALLOWING THE PROCESS TO UNFOLD. I THANK YOU FOR THAT. BUT
5 WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO DO, WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO DO IS INTRODUCE
6 TWO PEOPLE TO SPEAK TO DR. GARTHWAITE. I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT
7 THAT WE HAVE A DIALOGUE BETWEEN INTELLECTUALS, BETWEEN MEDICAL
8 EQUALS, AND BEFORE I INTRODUCE THEM, I WANT TO JUST SAY THAT
9 ON BEHALF OF THE QUARTER OF A MILLION PEOPLE THAT I REPRESENT
10 IN MY DISTRICT, THAT WE STAND AND SALUTE TO THE THOUSANDS OF
11 COUNTY EMPLOYEES THAT ARE DOING AN ADMIRABLE JOB EVERY SINGLE
12 DAY TO KEEP HUMAN ALIVE IN KING DREW. COULD THE COUNTY WORKERS
13 PLEASE STAND UP? COULD THE COUNTY WORKERS PLEASE STAND UP? [
14 APPLAUSE]

15

16 **COUNCILMEMBER LUDLOW:** BEFORE I BRING THEIR REPRESENTATIVE
17 FORWARD, I WANT TO FIRST INTRODUCE THE PERSON THAT WILL FOLLOW
18 THEIR REPRESENTATIVE. THIS INDIVIDUAL IS A CLINICAL PROFESSOR
19 AT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND POLICY MANAGEMENT AT COLUMBIA
20 UNIVERSITY. HE HOLDS AN M.B.A. IN THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS FROM
21 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, HOLDS A JURIS DOCTORATE DEGREE FROM YALE
22 SCHOOL OF LAW, HOLDS A MEDICAL DEGREE FROM YALE SCHOOL OF
23 MEDICINE. HE HAS OVER 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AT TURNING AROUND
24 HOSPITALS IN CRISIS. HE HAS BEEN ASKED BY OVER 15 LARGE
25 MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS IN THIS NATION FOR HIS ADVICE ON HOW TO



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1 TURN THEIR HOSPITAL AROUND, AND HE IS HERE TODAY, DR.
2 GARTHWAITE, TO TALK COLLEAGUE TO COLLEAGUE. [APPLAUSE]

3

4 **COUNCILMEMBER LUDLOW:** LET ME FIRST BEGIN BY INTRODUCING THE
5 BARGAINING UNIT REPRESENTATIVE FOR NEARLY 80,000 PUBLIC
6 HEALTHCARE AND COUNTY WORKERS, PLEASE WELCOME ANELLE GRAJEDA.
7 [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

8

9 **ANELLE GRAJEDA:** GOOD AFTERNOON, SUPERVISORS. I DON'T KNOW
10 ABOUT THAT INTELLECTUAL STUFF, BUT I KNOW WHAT SIDE I'M ON.
11 OKAY? LET ME JUST SAY THIS. THIS IS NOT A JOBS ISSUE FOR US.
12 NOT A SINGLE LAYOFF WOULD RESULT FROM THE CLOSURE OF THE
13 TRAUMA CENTER. OUR OPPOSITION TO THE CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA
14 CENTER IS BASED ON OUR MEMBERS' CONCERN ABOUT PATIENT SAFETY
15 AND THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE OF THE HOSPITAL AND THE
16 COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM. NOR ARE WE HERE -- DON'T MISUNDERSTAND
17 US, WE'RE NOT HERE TO DEFEND THE STATUS QUO. WE RECOGNIZE THAT
18 KING DREW IS A HOSPITAL IN DISTRESS. WE KNOW THAT FIXING KING
19 DREW'S PROBLEMS WILL REQUIRE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES, AND WE WANT
20 TO BE PART OF THE PROCESS OF SHAPING OUR HOSPITAL'S FUTURE,
21 FRANKLY, A FUTURE THAT GROWS MORE INSECURE EACH DAY. BUT WE DO
22 NOT BELIEVE THAT CLOSING ONE OF THE HOSPITAL'S STRONGEST
23 UNITS, AN INSTITUTION IN FACT ONCE USED BY THE MILITARY FOR
24 TRAINING ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL, IS THE WAY TO SAVE THE
25 HOSPITAL. THE DEPARTMENT HAS PRESENTED NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT



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1 ITS THEORY THAT THE HIGH VOLUME OF TRAUMATIC INJURIES
2 PRESENTED TO THE HOSPITAL THREATENS THE QUALITY OF PATIENT
3 CARE. IN FACT, THEY HAVE PRESENTED NO EVIDENCE OF ANY CLINICAL
4 ASSESSMENT AT ALL. THE DEPARTMENT HAS ATTEMPTED TO REMEDY THE
5 NEAR COMPLETE ABSENCE OF CAPABLE MANAGEMENT BY HIRING AN
6 OUTSIDE CONSULTANT, THE NAVIGANT FIRM, AT A CONSIDERABLE COST.
7 IN THE ABSENCE OF EVIDENCE THAT THE CARE REQUIRED BY THE
8 TRAUMA PATIENTS HAS, IN FACT, BEEN THE CAUSE OF WEAKNESSES AT
9 KING DREW, THE DEPARTMENT MAY BE RECOMMENDING THE WRONG
10 SOLUTION. BUT IN ITS DEDICATION TO THIS UNSUPPORTED THEORY, IT
11 HAS POINTEDLY INSTRUCTED NAVIGANT NOT TO EVEN ASSESS THE
12 RATIONALE FOR CLOSING THE TRAUMA CENTER. IN FACT, THE
13 RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR THE CARE OF THE MOST COMPLEX PATIENTS
14 IN THE TRAUMA CENTER APPEARS TO BE EXACTLY WHAT WOULD BE
15 REQUIRED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CARE IN THE HOSPITAL. WHAT
16 HAS BEEN LACKING IS THE MANAGEMENT TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE, THE
17 INDEPENDENCE OF MANAGEMENT TO IMPLEMENT UPGRADING PROGRAMS AND
18 THE RESOURCES TO FILL IMPORTANT GAPS IN STAFFING. ALSO,
19 APPARENTLY LACKING IS A WILL TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE
20 SOPHISTICATED SERVICES IN SOUTH LOS ANGELES. AS A RESULT, KING
21 DREW CONTINUES TO DISAPPEAR PIECE BY PIECE LIKE A CHESHIRE
22 CAT. THE DEPARTMENT'S SITE C.M.S. PLAN OF CORRECTION AND
23 J.C.A.H.O. SCRUTINY AND THE POTENTIAL LOSS OF THE
24 ACCREDITATION, BUT NO COMMUNICATION FROM C.M.S. OR J.C.A.H.O.
25 HAS REQUIRED OR EVEN SUGGESTED THE CLOSURE OF TRAUMA. IN FACT,



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1 DR. O'LEARY, PRESIDENT OF THE J.C.A.H.O., INDICATED THAT IT
2 WAS NOT NECESSARY TO CLOSE A TRAUMA CENTER IN ORDER TO REGAIN
3 THE ACCREDITATION. [APPLAUSE]

4

5 **ANELLE GRAJEDA:** THE DEPARTMENT REFERENCES THE LOSS OF THE
6 RESIDENT TRAINING PROGRAMS, BUT CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA CENTER
7 VIRTUALLY GUARANTEES THAT, FOR EXAMPLE, THE SURGICAL RESIDENCY
8 PROGRAM WILL NEVER BE RESTORED AT DREW ON GROUNDS THAT WITHOUT
9 TRAUMA, THE VOLUME OF SURGERY AT KING DREW WILL CONTINUE TO
10 DECLINE. RESTORATION OF RESIDENCY PROGRAMS IS ESSENTIAL TO THE
11 FUTURE OF KING DREW, BUT CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA CENTER IS NOT
12 AN EFFORT IN THIS DIRECTION. THE DEPARTMENT POINTS OUT THAT
13 KING DREW'S TRAUMA CENTER HAS BEEN WITHOUT A.C.S.
14 ACCREDITATION SINCE 1999, BUT A NUMBER OF TRAUMA CENTERS,
15 INCLUDING ST. FRANCIS, ONE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSED
16 DESTINATIONS FOR PATIENTS, ONCE KING'S TRAUMA CENTER IS
17 CLOSED, ALSO LACKS THE ACCREDITATION OF A.C.S. LOSS OF A.C.S.
18 ACCREDITATION SHOULD BE, IN FACT, A CHALLENGE TO THE
19 LEADERSHIP OF THE DEPARTMENT, NOT A REASON TO CLOSE THE
20 FACILITY. EXPERIENCE DEMONSTRATES THAT IN HOSPITALS, THE BEST
21 AND THE BRIGHTEST TEND TO BE ATTRACTED TO SPECIALIZED
22 SERVICES. REMOVING THE BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST FROM HOSPITAL
23 PERSONNEL IS A CERTAIN GUIDE TO DUMMY DOWN THE HOSPITAL.
24 METAPHORICALLY, WHILE THE BRAINS REQUIRE A DISPROPORTIONATE



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1 SHARE OF THE BODY'S OXYGEN, BEHEADING IS NOT THE SOLUTION. [
2 APPLAUSE]

3

4 **ANELLE GRAJEDA:** THE DEPARTMENT CITES CONGESTION IN THE
5 EMERGENCY ROOM AND INSUFFICIENT I.C.U. BEDS. THIS IS TRUE, AND
6 IT'S BEEN TRUE FOR SOME TIME AT KING. IT IS THE FAILURE OF THE
7 DEPARTMENT TO ATTRACT AND RETRAIN EXPERIENCED NURSES TO STAFF
8 THE CRITICAL CARE BEDS THAT HAS CREATED THIS CHAOS. RATHER
9 THAN ADDRESSING THE ABSENCE OF CRITICAL CARE NURSES BY
10 COMPLETING ACTION ON A NURSE'S CONTRACT TO ADDRESS NURSE
11 SALARIES, WHICH REMAIN 30% BELOW THE LABOR MARKET, THE
12 COUNTY'S RESPONSE HAS BEEN TO SUFFER THE CONTINUED EMERGENCY
13 ROOM CHAOS AND TO USE IT AS A RATIONALE TO CLOSE THE TRAUMA
14 CENTER. THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ARGUES THAT THERE'S NO REQUIREMENT
15 UNDER MEASURE B TO MAINTAIN THE CURRENT CONFIGURATION OF THE
16 TRAUMA NETWORK. THIS IS TRUE, BUT IT DOES NOT CHANGE THE FACT
17 THAT WHEN VOTERS AGREED TO TAX THEMSELVES TO PROVIDE
18 ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR TRAUMA SERVICES, THEY CERTAINLY DID
19 NOT HAVE IN MIND CLOSING THE SECOND BUSIEST TRAUMA CENTER IN
20 LOS ANGELES COUNTY. [APPLAUSE]

21

22 **ANELLE GRAJEDA:** THE DEPARTMENT ALSO SUGGESTS THAT AN ANALYSIS
23 OF THE ACUITY AND TRANSPORT DISTANCE OF PATIENTS TAKEN TO KING
24 DREW SHOWS THAT ONLY A HANDFUL OF PATIENTS WITH LIFE-
25 THREATENING INJURIES WOULD HAVE TO TRAVEL FURTHER UNDER THE



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1 NEW BOUNDARIES FOR TRAUMA. BUT THE PERIOD UNDER EXAMINATION IS
2 ONE IN WHICH IN-PATIENT RESOURCES WERE INADEQUATE AT KING
3 DREW. SO MANY CRITICALLY INJURED PATIENTS WERE TRANSPORTED
4 ELSEWHERE. IN OTHER WORDS, THE ANALYSIS IS RELEVANT ONLY IF WE
5 ASSUME THAT KING DREW'S PROBLEMS CANNOT BE FIXED. MOREOVER, IT
6 IS PURE HYPOCRISY TO TELL THE VOTERS IN 2002, IN THE CASE OF
7 TRAUMA, MINUTES, EVEN SECONDS, CAN MEAN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
8 LIFE AND DEATH AND THEN, TWO YEARS LATER, TRY TO SUGGEST THAT
9 INCREASED TRAVEL TIMES WILL NOT MATTER MUCH. [APPLAUSE]

10

11 **ANELLE GRAJEDA:** THE BOTTOM LINE, SUPERVISORS, IS THAT FROM OUR
12 PERSPECTIVE, THE CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA CENTER LOOKS LIKE
13 ANOTHER NAIL IN THE COFFIN IN THE SYSTEMATIC DISMANTLING OF
14 KING DREW PIECE BY PIECE, SERVICE BY SERVICE. A REDUCTION OF
15 2,000 OR MORE TRAUMA PATIENTS, 60% OF WHOM ARE HOSPITALIZED,
16 WILL DIMINISH THE VOLUME OF ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE HOSPITAL,
17 LEADING TO FURTHER REDUCTION IN THE FINANCIAL AND CLINICAL
18 INTEGRITY OF THE MEDICAL CENTER. THE SERIAL EROSION OF IN-
19 PATIENT, OUT-PATIENT, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES WILL MAKE
20 MAINTENANCE OF THE HOSPITAL SERVICES IN ANY FORM FINANCIALLY
21 UNTENABLE. IN SUM, THE DEPARTMENT'S TEMPTATION TO REMOVE
22 PATIENTS FROM THE HOSPITAL IS UNDERSTANDABLE, BUT IT'S ILL
23 SUITED TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY AND IT'S THE WRONG
24 MEDICINE FOR THE FUTURE HEALTH OF KING DREW. [APPLAUSE]

25



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1 **ANELLE GRAJEDA:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE CONTINUES]

2

3 **ANELLE GRAJEDA:** I'D LIKE -- [APPLAUSE CONTINUES]

4

5 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ANTONIO?

6

7 **SUP. BURKE:** HE'S PUTTING UP HIS OWN LIST OF PEOPLE.

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THE PEOPLE STAND -- WE WILL BE CALLING
10 EVERYONE, SO IF YOU'RE STANDING IN LINE AND YOUR NAME HASN'T
11 BEEN CALLED, PLEASE TAKE A SEAT, BECAUSE IT WILL, WE'LL GET TO
12 EVERYONE.

13

14 **COUNCILMEMBER LUDLOW:** CHAIRMAN KNABE, THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR
15 FLEXIBILITY. AS I BRING UP DR. HYDE, THERE IS A REPORT HERE
16 THAT I'D LIKE TO HAVE ENTERED INTO THE RECORD THAT IS THE FULL
17 VOLUME OF HIS FINDINGS. IT IS A POINT BY POINT, DR.
18 GARTHWAITE, RESPONSE TO YOUR LETTER INDICATING THE REASONS WHY
19 THE CLOSURE MAKES SENSE. HE HAS ADDRESSED THOSE POINT BY POINT
20 AND PROVIDING WHAT I THINK IS SOME SUBSTANTIAL REASONS TO NOT
21 MOVE FORWARD ON YOUR RECOMMENDATION. AND I WANT TO JUST, AS WE
22 BRING HIM UP AGAIN, IN THE SPIRIT OF WHERE REVEREND JACKSON
23 HAD US, IN TERMS OF LOOKING FOR SOME HOPEFUL OPEN MINDEDNESS
24 AMONGST THOSE OF YOU ON THE PANEL, DR. HYDE COMES WITH A LONG
25 RESUME, FAR TOO LENGTHY TO GIVE HIS FEW MOMENTS HERE JUSTICE,



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1 BUT I DO HOPE THAT YOU LISTEN TO HIM, AND WHETHER IT'S BEEN
2 THE COMMENTS THAT THERE ISN'T ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE, I AM
3 ABSOLUTELY CONFIDENT THAT THIS GENTLEMAN REPRESENTS A VIABLE,
4 RESPONSIBLE, FORWARD-THINKING ALTERNATIVE TO THE DECISION THAT
5 YOU'VE PUT FORWARD. PLEASE WELCOME DR. FRED HYDE. [APPLAUSE]

6

7 **DR. FRED HYDE:** MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND STAFF
8 AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT'S AN HONOR, FRANKLY, TO BE HERE
9 AND TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY AS AN OUTSIDER TO OFFER SOME
10 THOUGHTS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. I WANT TO ASK YOU JUST
11 MOMENTARILY TO GO BACK TO THE ORIGIN OF YOUR TRAUMA SYSTEM AND
12 MR. ANTONOVICH FRANKLY MAY RECALL THE REALLY DISTINGUISHED
13 HISTORY THAT LOS ANGELES COUNTY HAD BEGINNING IN 1979 WITH THE
14 CIRCULATION OF A SURVEY INSTRUMENT TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE
15 ABOUT CREATING A REGIONAL TRAUMA SYSTEM. YOU KNOW, IN THE OLD
16 DAYS, THE CITY OR THE COUNTY HOSPITAL WAS DE FACTO OF THE
17 TRAUMA HOSPITAL ANYWAY, BUT LOS ANGELES WAS AN INTERNATIONAL
18 PIONEER, AN INTERNATIONAL PIONEER IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
19 COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL TRAUMA SYSTEM. IT UNDERTOOK A PROCESS
20 THAT CULMINATED BETWEEN THE MIDDLE OF 1983 AND 1985 IN
21 BRINGING IN WHAT IT WAS FELT WAS THE REQUISITE NUMBER OF
22 HOSPITALS TO SERVE THE POPULATION AT THAT TIME, WHICH WAS
23 ABOUT -- ESTIMATED ABOUT NINE MILLION, BUT GIVE OR TAKE A
24 COUPLE, AS WE KNOW. AND AT THAT TIME, WE HAD ORIGINALLY 23
25 HOSPITALS THAT SIGNED UP TO BECOME PART OF THE COMPREHENSIVE



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1 REGIONAL TRAUMA SYSTEM. IN A SMALL FOOTNOTE, EVEN BEFORE THE
2 SYSTEM WAS COMPLETED, ONE HOSPITAL DROPPED OUT, CALIFORNIA
3 HOSPITAL, DECIDED IT DIDN'T WANT TO BE PART OF THE SYSTEM.
4 SUBSEQUENTLY, NINE OTHER HOSPITALS DROPPED OUT, AND THEY WERE
5 ALL WRESTLING WITH THE SAME ISSUE. IT'S NOT A MATTER OF
6 PERSONALITIES OR WHETHER THEY WANTED TO DO THE RIGHT THING OR
7 WHETHER THEY ASPIRED TO BE A BETTER INSTITUTION, THEY WERE ALL
8 WRESTLING WITH THE SAME ISSUE YOU ARE WRESTLING WITH, AND I,
9 FRANKLY I COMMEND YOU, AND I'M NOT SURE WHAT I WOULD DO IF I
10 WERE IN YOUR SHOES WITH ALL ASPECTS OF THIS, WHAT DO WE DO
11 WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE HIGH COST MEDICAL TREATMENT BUT HAVE NO
12 MEANS OF PAYING FOR THAT MEDICAL TREATMENT? THEY WERE
13 WRESTLING WITH THE UNINSURED THEN, YOU'RE WRESTLING WITH THE
14 UNINSURED NOW. IF YOU WEREN'T WRESTLING WITH THE UNINSURED AND
15 FACED WITH AN EXTRAORDINARY DEFICIT NEXT YEAR, THEN WE PERHAPS
16 WE WOULDN'T BE HERE. BUT I DO WANT TO SAY THAT IT'S WORTH
17 EVERYONE RECOGNIZING THAT LOS ANGELES COUNTY WAS THE PIONEER,
18 AND IF YOU LOOK BACK IN THE LITERATURE IN THIS FIELD, FORGIVE
19 ME FOR BEING A LITTLE BIT PROFESSORIAL, YOU'RE NOT PAYING
20 TUITION AND I'M NOT GOING TO TRY TO LECTURE, BUT IN THE 1992
21 IN "THE ARCHIVES OF SURGERY" THERE'S A TREMENDOUS SET OF
22 ARTICLES THAT TALK ABOUT THE VICTORIES OF THIS SYSTEM. FOR
23 EXAMPLE, AS WAS MENTIONED BEFORE, SOMETHING LIKE 83% OF THE
24 TRAUMA VICTIMS WITHIN A YEAR WERE BACK AT FULL OR PART-TIME
25 WORK OR FULL OR PART-TIME SCHOOL. TRUST ME. NOTHING LIKE BEING



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1 SHOT OR STABBED TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE, YOU GO THROUGH A LOT OF
2 EXPERIENCES, IF YOU'RE LUCKY ENOUGH, IF YOU'RE LUCKY ENOUGH,
3 TO BE NEAR A TRAUMA CENTER, YOU HAVE A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE
4 AND A DIFFERENT OUTLOOK ON THE LIFE IN FRONT OF YOU, AND IN
5 TERMS OF LIFE YEARS SAVED, THIS IS MORE IMPORTANT IN MANY WAYS
6 THAN CANCER, HEART DISEASE, STROKE, DIABETES. THIS IS LIFE
7 YEARS SAVED FROM TRAUMA CENTERS, AND LOS ANGELES WAS THE
8 PIONEER. AND I HOPE YOU FEEL GOOD ABOUT THAT, I HOPE YOU HAVE
9 A GOAL IN FRONT OF YOU ABOUT THAT, AND I HOPE IT MEANS
10 SOMETHING IN TERMS OF THE KIND OF ROLE THAT PERHAPS YOU OUGHT
11 TO BE ABLE TO PLAY NOW IN TERMS OF LOOKING AT THIS NEW WAVE OF
12 UNINSURED AND THE FINANCIAL PRESSURES THAT IT CAUSES. WHAT WE
13 LEARNED FROM THAT FIRST WAVE IS SIMPLE: YOU CAN'T OUTSOURCE
14 THE SAFETY NET. OKAY? THAT'S THE SIMPLE BOTTOM LINE, AND IT
15 DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER IT'S CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL BAILING OUT IN
16 1984 OR CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE WEST DECIDING THAT IT'S
17 INCONVENIENT TO KEEP ALL OF ITS EMERGENCY ROOMS OPEN IN 2004.
18 IT'S THE SAME PROBLEM. IT'S NOT THAT THEY DON'T WANT TO SERVE
19 EVERYONE WHO SHOWS UP; THEY CANNOT AFFORD THE WAVE OF
20 FINANCIAL PRESSURE THAT COMES FROM THE UNINSURED. IT HAS TO BE
21 A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY, BUT YOU ARE THE COUNTY, YOU ARE THE
22 PEOPLE WHO ARE LOOKED TO, TO BE THE SAFETY NET. THAT'S THE
23 FIRST THING I'D WANT TO KNOW, THAT THERE IS SOME PERSPECTIVE
24 TO THIS AND THAT IT'S CERTAINLY AN ELEGANT ONE. THE SECOND
25 THING I'D WANT TO KNOW, I WANT TO PAY SOME TRIBUTE TO MR.



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1 DYMALLY, HE'S PAYING ATTENTION TO AN ISSUE IN HIS ROLE NOW AND
2 HIS STAND FOR IT, THAT REALLY VERY FEW PEOPLE PAY ATTENTION
3 TO, HOW DO HOSPITALS GO OUT OF BUSINESS. HOW DO WE LOSE
4 HOSPITALS? WE LOSE HOSPITALS 40 OR 50 A YEAR. SOME OF THEM ARE
5 MUNICIPAL FACILITIES. I SPENT A LOT OF TIME, AND I'M ENGAGED
6 NOW IN TRYING TO FIX THINGS FOR DIFFERENT PARTIES IN DIFFERENT
7 PARTS OF THE WORLD, SO I GET A CHANCE TO SEE THIS, AND IT'S
8 DEVOID OF THE ISSUES THAT MAYBE MAKE IT A LITTLE BIT TOO CLOSE
9 SOMETIMES, THE PERSONALITIES AND THE INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVES,
10 AND YOU GET A CHANCE TO SEE IT FROM A DISTANCE, AND BELIEVE
11 ME, IT IS AN HONOR TO DO THAT AND TO BE ABLE TO SHARE WITH YOU
12 WHAT I SEE. NOBODY CAN BE FOUND WHEN THE HOSPITAL DIES.
13 NOBODY. YOU'LL HAVE PEOPLE WHO PROFESSIONALLY WILL SAY, "WE'RE
14 NOT DOING ANYTHING TO CLOSE THIS HOSPITAL, WE'RE AGAINST
15 CLOSING THIS HOSPITAL, NO WAY WE'RE GOING TO CLOSE THIS
16 HOSPITAL," BUT I'LL TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WHEN THE POINT COMES
17 THAT A HOSPITAL IS NOT FINANCIALLY VIABLE, WHEN IT'S
18 ORGANIZATIONALLY DYSFUNCTIONAL, WHEN IT'S SO RIDDLED WITH
19 QUALITY PROBLEMS THEY CANNOT BE SOLVED, NOBODY CAN FIX THAT,
20 IT'S UNFIXABLE. I CORRESPONDED WITH PEOPLE IN URBAN AREAS, IN
21 RURAL AREAS, I'VE BEEN CARRYING ON A TWO-YEAR-LONG E-MAIL
22 CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE PEOPLE IN SANTA PAULA, WHO HAD A BOARD
23 THAT SOMEHOW JUST WOULDN'T GIVE UP, THEY LOST THEIR HOSPITAL,
24 BUT THEY'RE GETTING IT BACK NOW. NOBODY CAN BE FOUND BECAUSE,
25 OVER TIME, THINGS HAPPEN. NOW LET ME GIVE YOU SOME EXAMPLES OF



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1 THINGS THAT HAVE HAPPENED THAT NOBODY'S ASKED YOUR PERMISSION
2 TO HAVE HAPPEN. DID ANYBODY COME TO YOU AND SAY, "LET'S CLOSE
3 THE NEUROSURGICAL I.C.U.," WHICH IS BY THE WAY A KEY BACKUP
4 FOR THE TRAUMA CENTER? NO, BUT THEY CLOSED IT. DID ANYBODY
5 COME TO YOU AND SAY, "LET'S HAVE AN ORTHOPEDIC WING IN THIS
6 HOSPITAL", NO THEY DIDN'T BUT NOW THEY HAVE THE ORTHOPEDIC
7 PATIENTS MIXED IN WITH THE MEDICAL SURGICAL PATIENTS, AND, OF
8 COURSE, NURSING GETS ALL MIXED UP. PEOPLE HAVE TO KNOW THE
9 EQUIPMENT, THEY HAVE TO KNOW THE POLICIES, THEY HAVE TO KNOW
10 THE PROCEDURES, THEY HAVE TO KNOW WHAT THE DOCTORS DO. IT GETS
11 ALL MIXED UP. DID ANYBODY COME TO YOU AND ASK YOU TO CLOSE THE
12 GERIATRIC UNIT? NO, THEY DIDN'T, AND IT'S CLOSED. AND
13 GERIATRIC CARE IS CRITICAL, ESPECIALLY FOR EXAMPLE IN TRAUMA,
14 OLDER PATIENTS, CONCENTRATED RESOURCES, NURSES WHO KNOW WHAT
15 THEY DO. THE ONLY REASON YOU'RE HERE, THE ONLY REASON YOU'RE
16 HERE, IS THE THING THAT DISTINGUISHES THE TRAUMA CENTER FROM
17 ALL THE SERVICES THAT HAVE BEEN CLOSED IN THIS HOSPITAL
18 ALREADY, IS THAT IT'S LEGALLY REQUIRED. IT'S A MANDATE. YOUR
19 HOSPITAL IS NOW GETTING TO THE POINT WHERE SOMEONE CAN
20 HONESTLY SAY TO YOU THE UNIT COST OF PROVIDING AN IN-PATIENT
21 DISCHARGE FOR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION, HEART ATTACK, YEAH, HEART
22 FAILURE IN THIS HOSPITAL IS TWICE WHAT IT IS IN YOUR OTHER
23 HOSPITALS. IT'S NOT BECAUSE THEY HAVE TOO MUCH IN EXPENSES;
24 BECAUSE THEY HAVE TOO FEW UNITS THAT THEY'RE USING. TOO FEW
25 PATIENTS, TOO FEW SERVICES. I DON'T THINK THE RIGHT NUMBER IS



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1 4%, IT'S CLOSER TO 10%, YOUR BOOKS ARE OPAQUE AND UTILIZATION
2 DATA IS VERY DIFFICULT, BUT LOOKING THROUGH THE CALIFORNIA
3 STATE AUDITOR'S REPORT IN MAY OF 2002 AND YOUR MEDICARE COST
4 REPORTS, WHICH TEND TO LEVEL THINGS OUT IN TERMS OF OPACITY,
5 SOMETHING AROUND AT THE FULL PRIME HERE, ABOUT 2,000 VISITS,
6 ABOUT 60% OF THEM REQUIRE INPATIENT HOSPITALIZATION, THAT'S
7 1200 DISCHARGES, SOMETHING ABOUT 10% OF THIS BUSINESS IS IN
8 TRAUMA. AND WHEN, AS ANELLE GRAJEDA SAID, WHEN YOU TAKE AWAY
9 ALL THE PEOPLE THAT ARE NECESSARY TO PERFORM THOSE FUNCTIONS,
10 YOU ESSENTIALLY STRIP THE PLACE DOWN, IT BECOMES A NEUTRON
11 BOMB, THE BUILDING'S STILL THERE, THE PEOPLE AREN'T. I'LL GIVE
12 YOU ONE EXAMPLE, AND DR. GARTHWAITE SAYS HE'D LIKE TO SEE THE
13 EMERGENCY ROOM BE AS CAPABLE TO SERVE THESE 47,000 PEOPLE
14 AFTER THE TRAUMA CENTER IS GONE. THE FRONT LINE FOR SERVICE TO
15 PATIENTS WITH TRAUMA, THE FRONT LINE FOR SERVICE TO PATIENTS
16 IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM WITH ANY KIND OF WOUND, IS A GENERAL
17 SURGEON. THE ONLY REASON ON THIS GOD'S EARTH WHY YOU HAVE ANY
18 GENERAL SURGEONS THERE IS BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO BE THERE TO
19 SERVE THE TRAUMA CENTER. AND I'LL TELL YOU WHERE THEY'RE GOING
20 TO BE AFTER YOU CLOSE THE TRAUMA CENTER, THEY'RE GOING TO BE
21 IN CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL. [APPLAUSE]

22

23 **DR. FRED HYDE:** THOSE VERY SAME HUMAN BEINGS ARE GOING TO BE
24 THERE. YOU WILL NOT HAVE -- YOU WILL HOLD OUT A SIGN THAT
25 SAYS, "EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT". YOU WILL NOT HAVE THE



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1 INTELLECTUAL INFRASTRUCTURE OR THE HORSEPOWER IN THE
2 LABORATORY, THE RADIOLOGY, PHARMACY, AND ESPECIALLY NURSING,
3 ANY MORE TOMORROW THAN YOU HAVE IT TODAY. FINAL THOUGHT.
4 YOU'VE BEEN VERY PATIENT, AND I APPRECIATE THAT. I GAVE SOME
5 SWORN TESTIMONY TODAY IN THE CASE OF "FRIENDS OF KING DREW
6 VERSUS THE COUNTY" IN TERMS OF WHAT I THOUGHT WAS NECESSARY AS
7 AN ALTERNATIVE, AND IT'S VERY SIMPLE, IT'S VERY SIMPLE. I
8 THINK WHAT'S NECESSARY IS FROM TWO TO THREE DOZEN CRITICAL
9 CARE NURSES. IF YOU HAVE THOSE NURSES, AS MISS GRAJEDA SAID,
10 NOT ONLY DO YOU ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF BACKUP IN THE
11 EMERGENCY, WHICH IS CHAOTIC, YOU ALSO BEGIN TO ADDRESS THE
12 QUESTION OF QUALITY. YOU CANNOT ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF
13 QUALITY WITHOUT STAFFING, AND YOU CANNOT ADDRESS THE QUESTION
14 OF STAFFING WITHOUT HAVING SERVICES THAT PEOPLE NEED. THERE
15 ARE OTHER REMEDIES. I'VE BEEN PARTICIPATING IN AT LEAST ONE
16 WHERE BOARDS REFUSE TO SAY, "WELL, WE DON'T THINK FRED, THAT
17 WHAT IS HAPPENING IS DESTRUCTIVE TO THE HOSPITAL." SO, I HOPE
18 VERY MUCH THAT YOU WILL TAKE A SECOND LOOK AT THAT, I HOPE
19 YOU'LL LOOK AT THE DOWNWARD SLIDE, THE FACT THAT AS
20 UTILIZATION GOES DOWN, SERVICES ARE CONSTRICTED, AS SERVICES
21 ARE CONSTRICTED UTILIZATION GOES DOWN. IT IS NOT INCONCEIVABLE
22 THAT THE NEXT MOVE WILL BE A MOTION TO APPOINT A RECEIVER FOR
23 THIS HOSPITAL, AND I HOPE VERY MUCH THAT I WON'T BE THERE
24 TESTIFYING IN THAT COURT, BUT I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING, YOU ARE
25 ON THE VERGE OF DECIDING EITHER TO REVITALIZE THIS HOSPITAL OR



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1 TAKE A STEP WHICH IS IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION, AND I WILL PUT
2 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE BEHIND THAT, YOU ARE ON THE VERGE RIGHT
3 NOW, AND I WISH YOU THE BEST IN MAKING THAT DECISION, BUT I'LL
4 TELL YOU THE SECRET IS VERY SIMPLE, YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE ON-SITE
5 MANAGEMENT, IF YOU DON'T HAVE ON-SITE MANAGEMENT, IF YOU DON'T
6 HAVE SOMEBODY THERE WHO IS EXERCISING MUSCULAR MANAGEMENT, WHO
7 IS FIGHTING DOWNTOWN WHEN DOWNTOWN HAS BAD IDEAS, JUST AS THE
8 OTHER HOSPITALS DO, WHO IS STANDING UP FOR THEIR PEOPLE, WHO
9 DOESN'T ENGAGE IN TRASH TALK, YOU'RE LOST. THANK YOU. [
10 ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY NEXT IS COUNCILMEMBER ANTONIO
13 VILLARAIGOSA, FOLLOWED BY COUNCILMEMBER LAURA RICHARDSON FROM
14 LONG BEACH. ANTONIO?

15

16 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I THOUGHT YOU CALLED ON MR. VILLARAIGOSA.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** I DID.

19

20 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I THOUGHT YOU ASKED -- I THOUGHT YOU CALLED
21 ON MR. VILLARAIGOSA, MR. CHAIRMAN.

22

23 **SPEAKER:** (OFF-MIKE) I AM CLOSING ZEV, I AM CLOSING. I AM
24 CLOSING. YOU HAVE ELECTED OFFICIALS HERE'S THAT ARE ANXIOUS TO
25 WORK WITH YOU, FROM A VALID PHYSICIAN, JUST TELLING YOU FROM



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1 EXPERIENCE, I'M JUST SAYING MR. GARTHWAITE YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY
2 WRONG. DELAY THE DECISION DON, WE NEED YOUR VOTE, JOIN
3 SUPERVISOR BURKE AND VOTE NO ON THIS ISSUE, AND LET'S SEE IT
4 WORK , WE'VE GOT TWO PEOPLE READY TO GO AND I'D LIKE TO
5 SUGGEST THAT YOU PUT DR. HYDE ON THOSE DELIBERATIONS. [
6 APPLAUSE]

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA, FOLLOWED BY
9 COUNCILMEMBER LAURA RICHARDSON FROM LONG BEACH, FOLLOWED BY
10 TERRY STINSON, DISTRICT DIRECTOR FROM CONGRESSWOMAN JUANITA
11 MILLENDER-MCDONALD.

12

13 **ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA:** I COME TODAY AS SOMEONE WHO HAS WORKED
14 VERY CLOSELY WITH THIS BOARD IN THE PAST OVER THE LAST DECADE
15 THAT I'VE BEEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE. I KNOW THAT THIS COUNTY IS
16 GROUND ZERO FOR THE UNINSURED ANYWHERE IN THE NATION, AND
17 THAT'S WHY, WORKING WITH THIS COUNTY, I AUTHORED "THE HEALTHY
18 FAMILIES PROGRAM", AND NOW 700,000 CHILDREN HAVE HEALTHCARE IN
19 THIS STATE AS A RESULT OF THAT EFFORT. I WORKED WITH THIS
20 BOARD WHEN THEY RAISED THE ISSUE OF DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE
21 FUNDING AND THE PRIVATE HOSPITALS AND THE NEED TO PROTECT THE
22 PUBLIC HOSPITALS, ESPECIALLY THE COUNTY HOSPITALS, I STOOD
23 WITH THIS BOARD BACK THEN IN THE LEGISLATURE AND I WORKED WITH
24 YOU TO ENSURE THAT THE COUNTY WAS PROTECTED AND THE SAFETY NET
25 WAS PROTECTED. I WORKED WITH YOU TO PROTECT THE 750-BED



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1 HOSPITAL HERE AT L.A. COUNTY U.S.C., AN AREA ON THE EAST SIDE
2 THAT I REPRESENT. I WORKED WITH YOU AND, IN FACT, WORKED WITH
3 THE EMPLOYEES HERE TO SAVE RANCHO LOS AMIGOS. I WORKED WITH
4 YOU WHEN YOU ASKED ME TO CO-CHAIR MEASURE B, I WORKED WITH YOU
5 THEN, AND USED MY POLITICAL CAPITAL TO CAMPAIGN AROUND THIS
6 COUNTY IN SUPPORT OF A MEASURE THAT WOULD KEEP THE PUBLIC
7 TRAUMA SYSTEM ALIVE AND VIABLE IN THIS COUNTY. SO I AM NO
8 JOHNNY COME LATELY TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE IN THIS COUNTY. [
9 APPLAUSE]

10

11 **ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA:** I COME, THOUGH, RAISED BY A MOTHER, A
12 SINGLE MOM, WHO ALWAYS SHARED WITH ME THE PARABLE, CAST YE NOT
13 THE FIRST STONE IF YOU LIVE IN A GLASS HOUSE. AND SO I DON'T
14 COME IN AN ACCUSATORY FASHION. I THINK JESSE JACKSON SAID IT
15 BEST. JESSE SAID, THERE'S A LOT WE HAVE IN COMMON. LET'S WORK
16 TOGETHER ON WHAT WE AGREE ON. WE AGREE THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING
17 HOSPITAL AND MARTIN LUTHER KING TRAUMA UNIT SHOULD STAY OPEN.
18 [APPLAUSE]

19

20 **ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA:** WE AGREE THAT THIS IS NOT AN ISSUE OF
21 RESOURCES. WE CAN SEE THAT THERE ARE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS HERE
22 LED BY MAXINE WATERS, THERE ARE NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS
23 HERE, THERE ARE MEMBERS OF THE STATE SENATE HERE, MEMBERS OF
24 THE STATE ASSEMBLY, THE L.A. CITY COUNCIL, AND MANY OTHER
25 JURISDICTIONS, INCLUDING MANY OF THE COMMUNITY LEADERS THAT



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1 ARE HERE WITH US TODAY. AND I'LL TELL YOU, I'M PROUD TO BE
2 HERE, TOO, BUT NOT BECAUSE WE'RE HAVING A HEARING, I'M PROUD
3 TO BE HERE WITH ALL OF YOU WHO ARE WILLING TO STAND UP AND
4 FIGHT AND WORK, WORK, WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP THIS TRAUMA SYSTEM
5 ALIVE. SO I'M HERE TODAY PRIMARILY BECAUSE I RECOGNIZE THERE
6 ARE NEVER EASY SOLUTIONS TO ANY PROBLEM. WE ARE GROUND ZERO,
7 AS I SAID, FOR THE UNINSURED IN THIS COUNTY. WE'VE CLOSED 10,
8 11 TRAUMA CENTERS IN THIS COUNTY OVER THE YEARS. BUT WHAT WE
9 NEED TO DO RIGHT NOW, EVERY ONE OF US, THE COUNTY, THE STATE,
10 THE CITY, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, IS TO SPEAK OUT FOR THE IDEA
11 THAT HEALTHCARE IS A RIGHT, NOT A PRIVILEGE. [APPLAUSE]

12

13 **ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA:** TO SAY THAT WE'RE GOING TO USE THE
14 RESOURCES, TO SAY THAT WE'RE GOING TO USE THE RESOURCES THAT
15 WE'RE GOING TO PUT IN CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL OR ANYWHERE ELSE,
16 AND INVEST THEM HERE AT MARTIN LUTHER KING TRAUMA CENTER HERE
17 TO PROTECT THE SAFETY NET OF THE NUMBER TWO HOSPITAL THAT'S A
18 PART OF THAT SYSTEM. SO I RISE NOT TO CAST STONES, I RISE TO
19 REACH OUT AND SAY THAT I INTEND TO WORK WITH YOU, BUT I INTEND
20 TO STAND UP FOR US AS WELL. [APPLAUSE]

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON FROM
23 THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, THEN TERRY STINSON, DISTRICT DIRECTOR,
24 CONGRESSWOMAN MCDONALD, THEN NATE HOLDEN.

25



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1 **LAURA RICHARDSON:** GOOD AFTERNOON, MR. CHAIRMAN, SUPERVISOR
2 KNABE, MY SUPERVISOR, AND THE OTHER HONORED SUPERVISORS. I'M A
3 COUNCIL MEMBER IN LONG BEACH AND I PERSONALLY REPRESENT THE
4 TWO HOSPITALS THAT MR. GARTHWAITE, AS I BELIEVE IMPROPERLY
5 STATED, ARE IN SUPPORT OF THIS DEPLOYMENT AND DIVERSION PLAN.

6 [INTERJECTIONS]

7

8 **LAURA RICHARDSON:** I AM HERE TO SPEAK TO TWO ISSUES: ONE,
9 PROFESSIONAL, AND THE NEXT ONE, PERSONAL, BECAUSE THIS HAS
10 BECOME PERSONAL. PROFESSIONALLY, I WAS DISAPPOINTED WHEN I
11 HEARD AT THE LAST BOARD MEETING THAT LONG BEACH WAS A PART OF
12 A DEPLOYMENT DIVERSION PLAN FOR THE KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER. I
13 HAVE SPOKEN, AND I WILL REPEAT, I HAVE SPOKEN DIRECTLY WITH
14 THE PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. OF LONG BEACH MEMORIAL MEDICAL
15 CENTER. I SPOKE WITH HIM THEN AND I SPOKE WITH HIM TODAY. HE
16 STATED OUR C.E.O. OF LONG BEACH MEMORIAL, THAT MEMORIAL WOULD
17 ASSIST IN THE PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CASES BECAUSE WE ARE NOW THE
18 ONLY HOSPITAL LEFT THAT CAN, BUT HE DID NOT SAY THAT, IN FACT,
19 HE STATED THAT HE SHARED WITH CAROL I BELIEVE, OF E.M.S. AND
20 ALSO WITH DR. GARTHWAITE, THAT LONG BEACH MEMORIAL WAS NOT
21 PREPARED TO TAKE ON ADDITIONAL OTHER TRAUMA CASES. [APPLAUSE
22]

23

24 **LAURA RICHARDSON:** HE ALSO STATED THAT HE HAS NEITHER BEEN
25 ASKED, NEITHER HAS LONG BEACH MEMORIAL ACCEPTED. AND IF ANY



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1 SUPERVISORS HAVE A QUESTION TO THAT CONVERSATION, I WOULD BE
2 HAPPY TO CALL MR. SWAGGERT ON MY CELL PHONE RIGHT NOW. [
3 APPLAUSE]

4

5 **LAURA RICHARDSON:** ADDITIONALLY, CHRIS, THE C.E.O. OF ST. MARY
6 MEDICAL CENTER, WHICH IS NOT CURRENTLY WITHIN THE NETWORK,
7 STATED THAT THEY WERE WILLING TO ASSIST WITH APPROXIMATELY 10
8 PATIENTS, WHICH WOULD MEAN MAYBE 300 CASES PER YEAR, HOWEVER,
9 HE STATED THAT THE SERVICE COULD NOT BE PROVIDED WITHOUT THE
10 COUNTY SUBSIDIZING THE HOSPITAL BILLS AND THE DOCTOR BILLS. IF
11 THIS SUBSIDY DOES NOT OCCUR, HE STATED THAT DOCTORS WOULD NOT
12 SERVE THESE PATIENTS. AND WHY? BECAUSE IF THE DOCTORS ARE NOT
13 ABLE TO RECOUP THEIR FULL COST OF UNINSURED PATIENTS, WHY NOT
14 GO TO ANOTHER HOSPITAL THAT WILL PROPERLY PAY THEM? SO WHAT WE
15 STAND TO LOSE AS A REGION IS LONGER LINES AND WE ALSO STAND TO
16 LOSE OUR BETTER DOCTORS. PERSONALLY, I GREW UP IN LOS ANGELES,
17 NOT IN GARDENA. I THINK IT IS WRONG TO BUS AND SHUTTLE LIKE
18 CATTLE OUR COMMUNITY THROUGHOUT THIS COUNTY. YOU SAID 3 TO 6%
19 MAYBE WOULDN'T BE COVERED. I'D LIKE TO SAY IF THAT 3 TO 6% IS
20 YOUR MOTHER, YOUR FATHER -- [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

21

22 **LAURA RICHARDSON:** -- A GUNSHOT WOUND AND A MAJOR TRAUMA IN A
23 CAR ACCIDENT, TWO MINUTES IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PERSON
24 HAVING A QUALITY OF LIFE AND A PERSON EITHER BEING A VEGETABLE
25 OR DEAD. DIDN'T WE LEARN SOMETHING FROM PRINCESS DIANA? SHE



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1 COULDN'T SURVIVE IN AN AMBULANCE. DO YOU THINK WE CAN? I URGE
2 YOU NOT TO CLOSE THE MARTIN LUTHER KING TRAUMA CENTER. I URGE
3 YOU, SUPERVISORS, TO GET IT IN WRITING. DON'T JUST TAKE THE
4 COMMENTS OF MR. GARTHWAITE. I CHALLENGE YOU TO GET IN WRITING
5 FROM THESE DIVERSION DEPLOYMENT POTENTIAL CENTERS TO SEE WHAT
6 ARE THEY WILLING TO PUT IN WRITING THAT THEY CAN HANDLE, SO WE
7 HAVE AN HONEST EVALUATION OF WHERE THESE PATIENTS ARE GOING TO
8 GO. I WANT TO SEE OUR PATIENTS NOT ONLY HELPED, BUT SERVED,
9 AND ALL OF THIS IS IMPORTANT TO NOT ONLY EVERYONE IN THIS
10 ROOM, BUT EVERYONE IN THIS REGION. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [
11 CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** NEXT IS TERRY STINSON, DISTRICT DIRECTOR
14 FOR CONGRESSWOMAN JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD, FOLLOWED BY NATE
15 HOLDEN, FOLLOWED BY LETECIA VASQUEZ.

16

17 **TERRY STINSON:** GOOD AFTERNOON. I'D LIKE TO READ A STATEMENT ON
18 BEHALF OF CONGRESSWOMAN JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD. CHAIRMAN
19 KNABE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF
20 SUPERVISORS. I REGRET THAT PERSONAL MATTERS HAVE PREVENTED MY
21 BEING HERE BEFORE YOU TODAY. HOWEVER, MY PHYSICAL ABSENCE BY
22 NO MEANS DIMINISHES MY COMMITMENT TO MARTIN LUTHER KING,
23 CHARLES DREW COMPLEX, WHICH I REPRESENT, NOR MY COMMITMENT TO
24 THE CONSTITUENTS WHO HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY TOLERANT OF THE
25 MYRIAD PROBLEMS THAT HAVE PLAGUED THIS MEDICAL FACILITY. I'VE



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1 BEEN DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE FAILURE OF THE SUPPORT
2 STRUCTURE FOR KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER FOR SOME TIME AND THAT
3 WE RECOGNIZE THE CRITICAL ROLE A STRONG C.E.O. PLAYS AT THE
4 HELM OF ANY HOSPITAL TO ENSURE QUALITY CARE IS PROVIDED TO
5 PATIENTS. THIS VERY NEEDED MEDICAL FACILITY HAS BEEN NEGLECTED
6 FOR YEARS AND YET THE URGENT CALL FOR HELP HAS GONE UNHEARD.
7 THE SERIOUS PROBLEMS THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED HAVE BEEN CITED
8 OVER AND OVER AGAIN, YET THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGEMENT,
9 STAFFING, AND OVERSIGHT HAVE TURNED A DEAF EAR TO THE MANY
10 CALLS OF CONCERN. MY CONSTITUENTS ARE PEOPLE OF GOODWILL AND
11 ARE PEOPLE WHO WOULD ENTRUST THOSE WHO TELL THEM THE TRUTH.
12 TRUTH IS SO IMPORTANT. WHEN YOU SPEAK THE TRUTH, CONSTITUENTS
13 RESPOND, BUT WHEN THERE IS A LACK OF RESPECT AND A LACK OF
14 RESPONSE TO THEIR NEEDS, THEY ARE NO DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER
15 CONSTITUENTS IN ANY OTHER COMMUNITY, THEY CRY OUT AND BEGIN TO
16 PROBE. THROUGHOUT THE LAST YEAR, AS I ATTEMPTED TO GET TO THE
17 BOTTOM LINE OF THIS ISSUE, I'VE BEEN MET WITH EMPTY RESPONSES
18 TO QUESTIONS SURROUNDING THE CORE ISSUES. I'VE THEREFORE HAD
19 TO DO MY OWN RESEARCH, QUERYING PROFESSIONAL STAFF, DEPARTMENT
20 HEADS, AND OTHERS TO TRY TO GET TO THE BOTTOM LINE. WHAT HAS
21 BECOME APPARENT IS THAT THIS HOSPITAL HAS A NEED FOR A CHIEF
22 EXECUTIVE OFFICER WITH EXPERTISE IN HOSPITAL OPERATIONS. NO
23 HOSPITAL CAN STAND AS AN EFFECTIVE FACILITY WHEN THE TOP
24 PEOPLE HAVE NOT HAD THE WILL TO DO THE RIGHT THING. THE QUICK
25 DECISION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IS ALSO A



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1 CONCERN. I'VE SPOKEN WITH THE HEAD OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR
2 MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES, THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE,
3 WHICH HAS OVERSIGHT OVER BOTH J.C.A.H.O. AND C.M.S., AND I'VE
4 SPOKEN WITH THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. IN
5 COMMUNICATION WITH MR. MCCLELLAN, WHO HEADS C.M.S. AND DIRECTS
6 ALL REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS, HE ASSURED ME I WOULD BE
7 CONTACTED BEFORE ANY FUNDING TO THE HOSPITAL IS PULLED. IN
8 SPEAKING WITH DR. DENNIS O'LEARY, THE PRESIDENT OF J.C.A.H.O.,
9 WHO MET WITH THE COMMUNITY AT THE MEDICAL FACILITY AT MY
10 INVITATION IN OCTOBER, HE TOLD EVERYONE PRESENT TO WORK ON
11 CORRECTING DEFICIENCIES IDENTIFIED, NONE OF WHICH HE FELT WERE
12 INSURMOUNTABLE. THESE DEFICIENCIES DO NOT EQUATE TO CLOSING
13 THE TRAUMA CENTER. IN FACT, DR. O'LEARY INDICATED THAT CLOSURE
14 OF THE TRAUMA CENTER WAS NOT A REQUIREMENT TOWARDS CORRECTING
15 DEFICIENCIES AT THE HOSPITAL. MR. WALKER OF THE G.A.O. IS
16 CAREFULLY MONITORING THE ACTIONS OF C.M.S. AND J.C.A.H.O. TO
17 ENSURE FAIRNESS AS WE PROCEED. IN ADDITION, I'VE ASKED THE
18 INSPECTOR GENERAL TO COME IN AND REVIEW THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT
19 OF BOTH THE HOSPITAL AND THE COUNTY. [APPLAUSE]

20

21 **TERRY STINSON:** I HAVE ALSO TALKED WITH MANY HOSPITAL C.E.O.S
22 ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND WHO ALL AGREE THE PROPOSAL TO CLOSE THE
23 TRAUMA CENTER IS PREMATURE. SINCE YOU HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO
24 BRING IN EXPERTISE BY HIRING NAVIGANT, I URGE YOU TO HAVE AN
25 OPEN MIND TO ALLOW THEM TO LOOK AT EVERY ASPECT OF THE



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1 HOSPITAL, INCLUDING THE TRAUMA CENTER, AND ASK THEM TO PAY
2 ATTENTION TO THE ROOT CAUSES THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS
3 BEING TIED TO THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS, INCLUDING IMPROPER
4 STAFFING LEVELS, LACK OF A NURSING CONTRACT, WAGES LOWER THAN
5 MARKET RATES, NEEDS OF THE PHYSICAL PLANT AND LACK OF A
6 RELATIONSHIP WITH TRAINING PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE PIPELINES FOR
7 A CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL STAFF. AS YOUR REPRESENTATIVE IN
8 WASHINGTON, I ASK THAT WE COME TOGETHER FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF
9 THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY AND THE ENTIRE COUNTY OF LOS
10 ANGELES. IT IS MY BELIEF THAT REMOVING THE TRAUMA CENTER AT
11 KING DREW IS NOT IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE. [
12 APPLAUSE]

13

14 **TERRY STINSON:** SINCERELY, JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD, MEMBER
15 OF CONGRESS. THANK YOU.

16

17 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. NATE HOLDEN, LETECIA VASQUEZ.

18

19 **NATE HOLDEN:** THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. I JUST WANT TO START OFF
20 BY SAYING FOR ME THIS IS A VERY SAD DAY. IT'S A SAD DAY FOR
21 THIS COMMUNITY AND FOR THIS COUNTY. YOU PUT OUT A LITTLE
22 NOTICE ON YOUR WEB SITE, WITH ALL THE GOOD THINGS THAT ARE
23 HAPPENING HERE AT DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING HEALTH -- DREW
24 MEDICAL CENTER, AND IT'S THE SAME REPORT, IT'S NEW BECAUSE YOU
25 HAVE THE COUNTY SEAL MINUS THE CROSS. SO THIS IS REAL. AND IT



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1 SAYS HERE THAT THE KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER SERVES A 94-
2 SQUARE-MILE AREA WITH A MULTI-CULTURAL POPULATION OF MORE THAN
3 1.5 MILLION PEOPLE. THE HOSPITAL IS LICENSED FOR 537 BEDS.
4 IT'S THE ONLY CERTIFIED LEVEL ONE TRAUMA CENTER IN THE REGION,
5 THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS RIGHT HERE. IT IS SAID THE EMPLOYEES MORE
6 THAN 3,000 PEOPLE, PROVIDES POSTGRADUATE TRAINING FOR MORE
7 THAN 300 RESIDENT PHYSICIANS, INTERNS, AND FELLOWS, AND 14
8 APPROVED ACCREDITED CLINICAL PROGRAMS. NOW IF THIS IS NOT TRUE
9 WE NEED TO TAKE THIS OFF THE INTERNET, AND MAINTAIN A TRAINING
10 CENTER FOR A QUARTER OF THE SURGEONS IN THE UNITED STATES OF
11 AMERICA, TRAINING RIGHT HERE. THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS. HOW DO WE
12 GET THERE? I MUST SAY WHEN I SAY THAT IT'S A SAD DAY FOR ME,
13 1969, I WAS HIRED BY SUPERVISOR KENNETH HAHN TO BE HIS DEPUTY,
14 AND THIS WAS FOLLOWING 1965. AND SPEAKING OF 1965, ALSO ON
15 YOUR WEB SITE, YOU SHOW PHOTOGRAPHS WITH THE COUNTY SEAL, IT
16 SAYS "WATTS RIOTS 1965 POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION" AND JUST SHOW
17 KING DREW AS IT IS TODAY. TODAY, THAT'S WHAT YOU HAVE. AND I
18 MUST TELL YOU, I HAD TO COME TO THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY
19 AND ASK THEM TO GIVE UP THEIR PROPERTIES, RELOCATE FOR THE
20 GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY WHO BUY THE HEALTHCARE THAT WAS BEING
21 RECOMMENDED FOR THE COMMUNITY. SO WE GAVE THEM A \$15,000
22 RELOCATION ASSISTANCE FEE, WITH A PROMISE OR A GUARANTEE THAT
23 THEY WOULD HAVE THE BEST HEALTHCARE SECOND TO NONE, MR.
24 YAROSLAVSKY, IN THIS AREA. NOW THE DOCTOR THAT JUST SPOKE
25 EARLIER, HE TALKED ABOUT HOW YOU'RE GOING TO CANNIBALIZE OR IN



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1 THE PROCESS OF CANNIBALIZING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL,
2 AND EVENTUALLY YOU'RE GOING TO COME UP AND SAY NOW YOU'RE
3 GOING TO NEED A RECEIVERSHIP. WHEN I SPOKE BEFORE THE BOARD OF
4 SUPERVISORS ABOUT OPPOSING THIS IDEA, I MENTIONED
5 CANNIBALIZING IT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING THE ASSISTANCE
6 TO OTHER HOSPITALS, AND I SAID THEN IT WOULD NOT WORK, IT HAS
7 NOT WORKED. YOU HAD A TRAUMA CENTER AT CENTINELA, A TRAUMA
8 CENTER AT DANIEL FRIEDMAN, A TRAUMA CENTER AT BROTMAN, AND
9 THEY'RE CLOSED AND THE DOCTOR JUST INFORMED US AT THE TIME
10 WHEN THEY TRIED TO ESTABLISH TRAUMA CENTERS CALIFORNIA
11 HOSPITAL SAID WE DON'T WANT TO BE A PART OF IT. AND I PREDICT
12 HERE TODAY SHOULD YOU APPROVE THE TRAUMA CENTER AT THE
13 CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL, IT WON'T STAY OPEN, IT WILL CLOSE, IT
14 WILL NOT BE PROFITABLE, THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE BOARD OF
15 SUPERVISORS WILL SAY WE CANNOT PROVIDE YOU THAT KIND OF FUNDS
16 TO CONTINUE THE OPERATION OF THAT TRAUMA CENTER. IT WILL
17 HAPPEN, LIKE WE HAD ANOTHER HOSPITAL OUT HERE, AND I THINK
18 SUPERVISOR KNABE'S DISTRICT TRIED TO CLOSE. BUT I WANT TO JUST
19 SAY THIS. IT WAS NOT EASY TO GET TO WHERE WE ARE. A LOT OF
20 FOLKS DIED OUT THERE ON THE STREETS, IN FACT, I HAVEN'T SEEN
21 THAT MANY PEOPLE ON THE STREETS SINCE 1965 RIGHT OUT HERE. AND
22 I'M NOT -- RIGHT OUT HERE, NO, NO, NO. I WORKED FOR THE
23 SUPERVISOR AND I MUST TELL YOU THE KIND OF TROUBLES WE HAD,
24 MR. YAROSLAVSKY, WHEN THEY FIRST OPENED THIS HOSPITAL, THE
25 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH KEPT STABBING IT IN THE BACK, STABBING IT



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1 IN THE BACK, NOT PROVIDING THE FUNDS FOR IT AND OPERATION, NOT
2 PROVIDING THE MONEY IN ORDER TO GET THOSE DEPARTMENTS UP AND
3 OPERATING AND CERTIFIED. AND YOU KNOW WHAT WE DID? WE CALLED
4 THOSE DOCTORS IN, WE CALLED THE STAFF IN, WE TOLD THEM, "YOU
5 ARE GOING TO PROVIDE HEALTHCARE FOR SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES.
6 IF YOU DON'T PROVIDE IT, YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE." [APPLAUSE]

7

8 **NATE HOLDEN:** THAT'S WHAT WE -- AND IT'LL BE SECOND TO NONE,
9 AND IT WAS SECOND TO NONE, BECAUSE IF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
10 SAYS "HEY YOU'RE PROVIDING THE BEST HEALTHCARE THERE, WE'RE
11 GOING TO TRAIN OUR DOCTORS", IT HAD TO HAVE BEEN SECOND TO
12 NONE. THERE'S NO REASON WHY WE CAN'T GET THERE AGAIN. I WANTED
13 TO SAY IN CLOSING THAT IT WAS NOT EASY TO BUILD THIS HOSPITAL.
14 WE GOT A LOT OF "NO" VOTES AT THE TIME, IN FACT, THE COUNTY
15 VOTED "NO" AGAINST THE HOSPITAL, WE WILL NOT REWARD THOSE
16 PEOPLE, THEY VOTED "NO" AGAINST THE CONVENTION CENTER, "NO WE
17 WILL NOT PROVIDE FOR A CONVENTION CENTER", SO THE JOINT POWERS
18 OF AUTHORITY, WHICH YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH, THAT'S HOW IT WAS
19 SET UP, AND THAT'S HOW WE WERE ABLE TO GET THE HOSPITAL. AND
20 THEN WE HAD PROBLEMS BEYOND THAT, YOU KNOW WHO GAVE US THIS
21 HOSPITAL? A GUY NAMED RONALD REAGAN. RONALD REAGAN. RONALD
22 REAGAN SAID YOU PUT THE MONEYS FOR THE MARTIN LUTHER KING
23 HOSPITAL BACK INTO THE BUDGET OR WE'LL VETO THE BUDGET BECAUSE
24 THEY NEED IT. [APPLAUSE]

25



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1 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** DO YOU WANT TO WRAP IT UP NATE?

2

3 **NATE HOLDEN:** THEY NEEDED IT THEN AND THEY NEED IT NOW, AND
4 THEY NEED IT NOW MORE THAN EVER, AND YOU KNOW WHAT? IT SHOULD
5 NOT BE SECOND TO NONE.

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY.

8

9 **NATE HOLDEN:** IN TERMS OF THE COUNTY HEALTHCARE YOU PROVIDE.

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** MARGUERITE LAMONT, PLEASE, MARGUERITE
12 LAMONT.

13

14 **NATE HOLDEN:** WELL, I'M GOING TO SIT DOWN, MR. PRESIDENT.

15

16 **SPEAKER:** BEFORE THE NEXT PERSON, IF YOU DON'T MIND, WE HAVE
17 PEOPLE WHO CAME ON BUSES FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTY. THOSE BUSES
18 MUST LEAVE AND WE WILL REPLACE THEM WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN
19 WAITING OUTSIDE. WE HAVE SEVERAL THOUSAND PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN
20 WAITING OUTSIDE. SO THE PEOPLE ON THE BUSES MUST LEAVE AND THE
21 PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN WAITING OUTSIDE, WE'D LIKE THEM TO
22 REPLACE THEM, IF YOU DON'T MIND, SO IF YOU CAME ON A BUS, ONE
23 OF THE BUSES THAT WAS SENT TO YOUR PROGRAM OR TO YOUR
24 NEIGHBORHOOD, IT'S TIME FOR THOSE BUSES TO RETURN, SO WOULD



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1 YOU PLEASE LEAVE NOW? IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU LEAVE NOW,
2 AND YOUR SEATS WILL BE FILLED WITH OTHERS. THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. MARGUERITE LAMONT, AND THEN -- IS
5 LETECIA VASQUEZ HERE? I GUESS -- OKAY. AND THEN LETECIA.
6 PARDON ME? OKAY. GO AHEAD, MARGUERITE.

7

8 **MARGUERITE LAMONT:** MR. KNABE AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, THE
9 OTHERS HAVE ELOQUENTLY STATED THE STATISTICS INVOLVING THIS
10 CLOSURE. AS A MEMBER OF LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,
11 ONE, I FIGHT 24/7 FOR MY STUDENTS FOR THREE THINGS: EQUITY,
12 ACCESS, ENTITLEMENT. THIS YEAR, WE COMMEMORATE 50 YEARS OF
13 BROWN VERSUS BOARD OF EDUCATION, WHICH DE-LEGITIMIZED
14 SEGREGATION. AND FOR SOME REASON, I FEEL THAT I HAVE BEEN
15 CATAPULTED 40 OR 50 YEARS AGO AS WE STAND HERE TODAY FIGHTING,
16 OR MAYBE DISCUSSING, OUR RIGHTS. ARE WE NOT EQUAL TO OTHERS IN
17 DESERVING A TRAUMA CENTER IN OUR COMMUNITY? SHOULD WE NOT HAVE
18 THE SAME ACCESS TO A TRAUMA CENTER AS OTHER COMMUNITIES? ARE
19 WE NOT ENTITLED AS OTHER COMMUNITIES ARE TO THE SERVICE OF A
20 TRAUMA CENTER. IT HAS BEEN SAID TONIGHT THAT THIS IS NOT A
21 POLITICAL ISSUE BUT A MEDICAL ISSUE. I SUBMIT TO YOU IT IS
22 NEITHER. IT IS A MORAL ISSUE. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND
23 APPLAUSE]

24



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1 **MARGUERITE LAMONT:** A MORAL ISSUE ON WHICH YOU CANNOT PLACE A
2 DOLLAR SIGN. FOR OUR CHILDREN'S SAKE, YOU MUST MAINTAIN THE
3 INTEGRITY OF THIS COMMUNITY AND AS OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES
4 HAVE SAID, YOU HAVE A MORAL OBLIGATION TO KEEP THIS TRAUMA
5 CENTER OPEN SO THAT OUR CHILDREN, TWO OF WHOM -- TWO STUDENTS
6 FROM WASHINGTON PREP JUST DOWN THE STREET A PIECE, ARE ON THE
7 STAFF AS DOCTORS OF THIS TRAUMA CENTER. WE CAN ILL AFFORD TO
8 DENY THEM THE ACCESS, THE EQUITY, AND THE ENTITLEMENT OF A
9 CENTER IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD THE WAY OTHERS HAVE. I URGE YOU,
10 DELAY YOUR VOTE TOMORROW, BECAUSE THIS IS NOT 1650, YOU TALK
11 WITH A DOUBLE MESSAGE WHEN YOU SAY TOMORROW HAS NOTHING TO DO
12 WITH WHAT WE HERE ABOUT TODAY AND YOU PLAY WITH OUR
13 INTELLIGENCE. WE ARE MUCH MORE INTELLIGENT THAN THAT, AND WE
14 KNOW THERE IS A CONNECTION. KEEP THE TRAUMA CENTER OPEN OR YOU
15 WILL SUFFER THE WAY WE ALL WILL, THE UNREST OF OUR CONSCIENCE
16 WHENEVER ANOTHER LIFE IS LOST BECAUSE OF ITS CLOSURE.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

19

20 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** SANDRA DAVIS. SANDRA DAVIS. [APPLAUSE
21 CONTINUES]

22

23 **SANDRA DAVIS:** HI. MY NAME IS SANDRA DAVIS, I'M FROM CULVER
24 CITY, BUT I STILL CONSIDER THIS MY COMMUNITY. THESE PEOPLE ARE
25 A PART OF MY COMMUNITY. I STAND BEFORE YOU INSTEAD OF OUR



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1 CHILDREN. I RAN FOR THE SCHOOL BOARD THINKING THAT I'M THE
2 VOICE FOR THE PEOPLE, FOR THE KIDS, AND ALL OF THE ELECTED
3 OFFICIALS HERE ARE MY MENTORS. I'M A BABE IN THE WOODS, AND
4 THESE ARE MY MENTORS, AND I'M WATCHING YOU FOR GUIDANCE, I'M
5 WATCHING YOU TO SEE WHAT I NEED TO DO IN MY POSITION, BUT I
6 NEED TO SEE THAT YOU SHOW ACCOUNTABILITY IN WHAT YOU DO. THIS
7 HOSPITAL IS SOMETHING THAT THIS COMMUNITY, IT'S A PART OF THE
8 COMMUNITY. WE CAN'T JUST SAY THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN THAT WE'RE
9 GOING TO JUST DISPERSE EVERYBODY TO ALL THESE DIFFERENT
10 PLACES. I'VE LISTENED TO ALL OF -- I'VE LISTENED TO DR.
11 GARTHWAITE AND THEN ALL OF THE DOCTORS THAT HAVE COME FORTH TO
12 REFUTE THE THINGS THAT DR. GARTHWAITE HAS PUT FORTH. THAT
13 REALLY BAFFLES ME TO THINK THAT OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS ARE
14 SAYING, "WELL, WE'RE GOING TO TAKE MR. GARTHWAITE'S WORD OVER
15 ALL OF THE OTHER DOCTORS, OVER ALL OF THE OTHER HOSPITALS,
16 OVER ALL OF THE POLITICIANS." I'M REALLY CURIOUS TO KNOW WHY
17 THIS IS HAPPENING THIS WAY. SO WHEN I LISTENED TO JESSE
18 JACKSON, I'M THINKING WIN-WIN SITUATION. THAT'S ALL I LEARNED
19 IN SCHOOL, WAS WIN-WIN SITUATION. THIS LOOKS LIKE IT SHOULD BE
20 A WIN-WIN SITUATION. IF IT'S A WIN-WIN SITUATION, IF IT'S A
21 WIN SITUATION FOR THE PEOPLE THEN IT'S A WIN SITUATION FOR
22 YOU. [APPLAUSE]
23
24 **SANDRA DAVIS:** OR IT SHOULD BE, AND THAT'S WHERE I'M KIND OF --
25 I'M GETTING REAL BAFFLED BY THIS, AND AS I SAID, YOU'RE MY



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1 MENTORS, YOU'RE MY TEACHERS, I'M WATCHING YOU FOR GUIDANCE.
2 GUIDE ME, BUT SHOW ME THE ACCOUNTABILITY. WHERE IS THE
3 ACCOUNTABILITY? IS THE ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE COMMUNITY? IS IT
4 TO THE PEOPLE? IS IT TO THE FAMILIES? IS IT TO THE ELDERS? IS
5 IT TO THE YOUTH? WE'VE GOT YOUTH DYING EVERY DAY, WE'VE GOT
6 ELDERS DYING EVERY DAY, WE'VE GOT PEOPLE BEING SHOT, WE'VE GOT
7 PEOPLE BEING RUSHED IN. WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN, THOSE FEW
8 MILES, SOMEBODY SAID IT UP HERE, THOSE FEW MILES MAKE A BIG
9 DIFFERENCE. MINUTES MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A LIFE. HOW CAN WE
10 SAY, "OH, IT'S OKAY, JUST GO A FEW MORE MILES AND YOU'RE GOING
11 TO MAKE IT"? WE'RE NOT GOD, BUT GOD IS WATCHING.

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

14

15 **SANDRA DAVIS:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

16

17 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** NEXT IS DR. FREDERICK BURKE, FOLLOWED BY
18 PASTOR EMERY JAMES.

19

20 **DR. FREDERICK BURKE:** MR. CHAIRMAN, MR. CHAIRMAN, THANK YOU SO
21 KINDLY FOR ALLOWING ME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD
22 OF SUPERVISORS. I'VE BEEN SITTING HERE ALL DAY LONG, BUT I'M
23 GLAD TO BE HERE, BUT LET ME GET RIGHT TO THE POINT. THE REASON
24 WE'RE HERE TODAY IS BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT THE COUNTY BOARD
25 OF SUPERVISORS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FUNDS ADMINISTERED IN



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1 THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IS
2 RESPONSIBLE FOR HIRING THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR FOR MEDICAL
3 SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY, WHICH MAKES POLICY DECISIONS THAT
4 AFFECT VARIOUS FACILITIES WITHIN THE COUNTY. THE REASON WE'RE
5 HERE TODAY IS BECAUSE DR. GARTHWAITE, WHO I'M SURE IS GOOD,
6 GARTHWAITE, WHO I'M SURE IS GOOD AT WHAT HE DOES, HAS COME UP
7 WITH CERTAIN POLICIES THAT HAVE AFFECTED THE MARTIN LUTHER
8 KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER IN AN ADVERSE WAY. WE ALL KNOW THAT
9 YOU CANNOT RUN A HOSPITAL WITHOUT AN ADMINISTRATOR. ANYTHING
10 WITHOUT A HEAD IS COMPLETELY OUT OF CONTROL. WE ALSO KNOW THAT
11 YOU NEED ADEQUATE STAFFING IN ORDER TO ADMINISTER THE PROPER
12 CARE THAT PATIENTS NEED, AND WHEN YOU CONTRACT OUT SERVICES
13 FOR NURSES AND YOU DON'T HAVE ADEQUATE STAFFING, CERTAINLY IT
14 WOULD CREATE A PROBLEM. THE OTHER PART -- NOW, I'M GOING TO
15 SPEAK, NOW I'VE BEEN HERE ALL DAY JUST LIKE YOU HAVE, AND I'M
16 GOING TO SAY MY PIECE. THE OTHER THING THAT WE FAIL TO REALIZE
17 IS THAT THE DREW MEDICAL SCHOOL IS THE TRAINING FACILITY THAT
18 SENDS DOCTORS TO THE TRAUMA CENTER FOR TRAINING. THEY HAVE
19 TRAINED SOME OF THE TOP DOCTORS IN THIS COUNTRY IN THE FIELD
20 OF TRAUMA. NOW, THE RATIONALE FOR CLOSING THE TRAUMA CENTER
21 THAT WILL HELP DECOMPRESS THE HOSPITAL, THAT WILL SOLVE --
22 APPARENTLY SOLVE THE PROBLEM, THAT IS TOTALLY IRRATIONAL. THE
23 TRAUMA CENTER HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE HOSPITAL. THE FACT OF
24 THE MATTER IS, WHEN YOU HAVEN'T GOT ENOUGH STAFF TO MEET THE
25 NEEDS OF PEOPLE, HOW DO YOU EXPECT THE HOSPITAL TO HAVE A



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1 STANDARD OR A REPUTATION THAT IS EXCELLENT? I WOULD SAY THIS.
2 YOU SPENT \$13 MILLION TO BRING IN AN OUTSIDE CONSULTANT. I
3 WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU WHAT YOU NEED TO DO FOR FREE. [APPLAUSE]

4

5 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY, DO YOU WANT TO WRAP IT UP? [GAVEL]

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WE'VE GOT A LOT OF PEOPLE TO TESTIFY.

8

9 **DR. FREDERICK BURKE:** OH I'M VERY CLEAR ABOUT THAT, I HAVEN'T
10 HAD MY DINNER YET EITHER. BUT LET ME JUST SAY THIS, NOTHING
11 AGAINST MR. GARTHWAITE, BUT WHEN YOU DO NOT BRING IN THE
12 PERSONS THAT ARE RIGHT ON THE SCENE, I'M TALKING ABOUT THE
13 DOCTORS AND THE NURSES THAT DEAL WITH THE DAY-TO-DAY PROBLEMS
14 OF THAT FACILITY, AND YOU MAKE DECISIONS DOWNTOWN AND YOU'RE
15 OUT OF TOUCH WITH THE REALITIES AND THE NEEDS OF THAT
16 PARTICULAR FACILITY, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE,
17 YOU'RE CERTAINLY GOING TO HAVE A PROBLEM. THE OTHER PART IS
18 THIS, AND I'LL STOP, BECAUSE I KNOW YOU WANT TO GO HOME, TOO,
19 BUT I WILL SAY THIS, I BELIEVE THAT, FIRST OF ALL, MOST OF YOU
20 ARE IN SHOCK, I'M SURE YOU ARE, BECAUSE YOU DID NOT ANTICIPATE
21 THAT THIS COMMUNITY WOULD RALLY THE WAY IT HAS RALLIED, YOU
22 DID NOT ANTICIPATE -- [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

23

24 **DR. FREDERICK BURKE:** AND AS I CLOSE MY SERMONS ON SUNDAY, I
25 WILL CONCLUDE WITH MY CONCLUSION. [LAUGHTER]



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1

DR. FREDERICK BURKE: WHAT IS TAKING PLACE HERE TODAY IS NOT JUST ABOUT SOUTH L.A., IT IS ABOUT EVERY MEDICAL FACILITY WITHIN THE COUNTY SYSTEM, AND WHETHER FOLK LIKE ZEV, WHO'S SITTING BACK THERE LOOKING AROUND, BEING DISRESPECTFUL, I'M GOING TO SAY MY PIECE ANYWAY, YOU NEED TO TAKE SERIOUSLY WHAT WE ARE SAYING. WE'RE NOT JUST OUT HERE KILLING TIME. WE ARE HERE BECAUSE WE'RE CONCERNED ABOUT HEALTHCARE. WE'RE CONCERNED ABOUT POOR PEOPLE, WE'RE CONCERNED ABOUT FOLK THAT WORK EVERY DAY THAT HAVE A RIGHT TO HAVE DECENT HEALTHCARE, AND IT'S THE COUNTY'S JOB TO PROVIDE THAT HEALTHCARE AND WE WANT THAT TRAUMA CENTER OPEN AND WE DO NOT WANT IT CLOSED BECAUSE EVERY COUNTY TRAUMA CENTER THAT HAS BEEN CLOSED HAS NEVER REOPENED AND WE KNOW THAT AND WE DON'T WANT IT CLOSED.

15

SUP. KNABE, CHAIR: MAYOR PRO TEM, LETECIA VASQUEZ FROM LYNWOOD, FOLLOWED BY PASTOR EMERY JAMES.

18

LETECIA VASQUEZ: ALL RIGHT, GOOD AFTERNOON, HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS LETECIA VASQUEZ, AND I AM THE MAYOR PRO TEM IN THE CITY OF LYNWOOD. I STAND HERE BEFORE YOU ON BEHALF MY COLLEAGUES ON THE LYNWOOD CITY COUNCIL AND ALSO ON BEHALF OF THE 72,000 PEOPLE THAT I REPRESENT IN THE CITY OF LYNWOOD, TO VOICE OUR STRONG, STRONG OPPOSITION OF THE CLOSURE OF THE KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER. DUE TO THE RECENT



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1 DIVERSION OF PATIENTS AT KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER TO SAINT
2 FRANCES MEDICAL CENTER LOCATED IN OUR CITY, IN THE CITY OF
3 LYNWOOD, OUR HOSPITAL HAS EXPERIENCED A DRAMATIC, DRAMATIC
4 INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF TRAUMA PATIENTS BEING SEEN.
5 LYNWOOD'S, SAINT FRANCES MEDICAL CENTER, IS JUST THREE MILES
6 AWAY FROM KING DREW'S TRAUMA CENTER AND IS THE CLOSEST TRAUMA
7 CENTER IN THE VICINITY. SAINT FRANCES, AND I QUOTE FROM OUR
8 C.E.O., "CANNOT SUSTAIN THE INCREASE IN PATIENTS OF OUR TRAUMA
9 CENTER AND CLOSURE OF KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER WILL FURTHER
10 STRAIN THE RESOURCES IN OUR COMMUNITY." AS YOU HAVE ALREADY
11 HEARD, SAINT FRANCES IN THE CITY OF LYNWOOD, WE HAVE OUR OWN
12 ISSUES RIGHT NOW WITH ACCREDITATION, AND WE CANNOT TAKE ON THE
13 ADDED BURDEN WHEN WE ARE STILL HAVING TO FACE SOME CHALLENGES
14 INTERNALLY WITH OUR HOSPITAL. WE ARE NOT PREPARED, SIMPLY NOT
15 PREPARED TO TAKE ON THE ADDITIONAL PATIENTS THAT WILL COME TO
16 OUR TRAUMA CENTER. [INTERJECTIONS]

17

18 **LETECIA VASQUEZ:** AS SOMEONE WHO WAS BORN IN THIS COMMUNITY,
19 SOMEONE WHO GREW UP IN THE SHADOWS OF KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER,
20 I'M PERSONALLY OFFENDED THAT, AND I HAVE NEVER MET DR.
21 GARTHWAITE, IN FACT, I'M JUST BARELY BEING ABLE TO PUT A FACE
22 TO THE NAME AFTER READING A LOT OF THE ARTICLES IN THE L.A.
23 TIMES, BUT I'M VERY OFFENDED THAT SOMEONE SUCH AS HIM CAN MAKE
24 SUCH GRAVE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT ARE GOING TO IMPACT OUR
25 COMMUNITY. DR. GARTHWAITE, I'M SURE, HAS NEVER BEEN A PATIENT



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1 AND WILL NEVER BE A PATIENT AT KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER. [

2 CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. OKAY. LETECIA. TIME'S UP, SO, DO
5 YOU WANT TO WRAP IT UP?

6

7 **LETECIA VASQUEZ:** OKAY, WELL JUST -- YES, IN WRAPPING UP, ON
8 BEHALF OF THE GOOD PEOPLE NOT ONLY IN THE CITY OF LYNWOOD BUT
9 IN OUR REGION, WE URGE YOU TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION, HELP
10 SAVE THE LIVES OF THE FAMILIES THAT PEOPLE IN OUR DIVERSE
11 COMMUNITY, OUR LATINO FAMILIES, OUR AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAMILIES
12 AND ALL THE FAMILIES IN THIS COMMUNITY AND SAY "NO" TO THE
13 CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA CENTER.

14

15 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

16

17 **LETECIA VASQUEZ:** THANK YOU.

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** PASTOR -- [APPLAUSE]

20

21 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** PASTOR EMERY JAMES. IS PASTOR JAMES STILL
22 HERE? PASTOR EMERY JAMES? OH PASTOR WILLIAM CAMPBELL, HE
23 MENTIONED EARLIER HE'S GOING TO SUBMIT HIS TESTIMONY IN
24 WRITING. REVEREND FREDERICK GLASS, FOLLOWED BY PASTOR REGINALD
25 POPE. I'VE GOT REVEREND FREDERICK GLASS, AND THEN PASTOR



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1 REGINALD POPE, AND DEACON JOSIAH ALEXANDER SENIOR, IF YOU'D
2 GET IN LINE, PLEASE.

3

4 **REVEREND FREDERICK GLASS:** I'M THE REVEREND FREDERICK GLASS,
5 THE VOLUNTEER ADMINISTRATIVE CHAPLAIN, MARTIN LUTHER KING
6 HOSPITAL FOR THE PAST 12 AND 1/2 YEARS. ALSO, I AM A RETIRED
7 COLONEL FROM THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE WHERE I HAVE MANAGED
8 AIRCRAFT BASES INCLUDING HOSPITALS. I'M ALSO A RETIRED PROJECT
9 MANAGER, FLIGHT TEST, FROM HUGHES AIRCRAFT COMPANY, SO I KNOW
10 QUITE A BIT ABOUT MANAGEMENT. IN LISTENING TO DR. LEWIS FROM
11 J.C.A.H.O. TELL US THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL HAS HAD
12 ACCREDITATION PROBLEMS FOR 10 YEARS AND THESE PROBLEMS HAVE
13 GONE UNTREATED, IT'S LIKE A WOUND AND WHICH YOU DON'T TREAT,
14 THAT'S ALLOWED TO FESTER AND FESTER AND FESTER, A HOSPITAL
15 WITHOUT A C.E.O. IS LIKE A SHIP WITHOUT A PADDLE. YOU, THE
16 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ON DOWN TO THE LOWEST WORKER THAT SWEEPS
17 THE FLOOR, HAVE FAILED THIS COMMUNITY, FAILED THIS COMMUNITY
18 MANAGEMENT-WISE! [APPLAUSE]

19

20 **REVEREND FREDERICK GLASS:** YOU HAVE HIRED A MANAGEMENT TEAM TO
21 COME IN NOW TO DO A JOB. LET THEM DO THEIR JOB. DON'T GUESS BY
22 COMING UP WITH SOMETHING TO IT'S SO-CALLED DECOMPRESS THE
23 HOSPITAL BY CLOSING THE TRAUMA CENTER. SOMETHING THAT'S NEEDED
24 IN THIS COMMUNITY. DR. GARTHWAITE SAID BETWEEN 3 AND 6% WILL
25 BE THE EFFECT ON THIS HOSPITAL. THAT EQUATES TO 60 TO 120



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1 PEOPLE WHO WILL DIE IN THE STREETS. WE NEED TO SAVE LIVES. WE
2 NEED THIS TRAUMA CENTER. THIS TRAUMA CENTER IS WORLD RENOWNED
3 FOR THE SERVICES THAT IT PROVIDES, SPECIFICALLY TO THE
4 MILITARY AND TRAINING ITS DOCTORS. WE NEED SOUND MANAGEMENT.
5 WE NEED SOUND CARE. PROVIDE THE CARE FOR THE PEOPLE THAT NEED
6 IT IN THIS COMMUNITY. THANK YOU.

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. PASTOR REGINALD POPE? [CHEERS
9 AND APPLAUSE]

10

11 **SUP. MOLINA:** MR. CHAIRMAN?

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** FOLLOWED BY DEACON JOSIAH ALEXANDER, SR.,
14 FOLLOWED BY MRS. LILLIAN MOBLEY.

15

16 **SUP. MOLINA:** SIR, BEFORE YOU BEGIN, SIR, COULD THE DEPUTIES
17 ASK MAYBE 20 MORE PEOPLE TO COME IN? THERE'S A LOT OF EMPTY
18 SEATS AND THERE'S PEOPLE WAITING OUTSIDE. [APPLAUSE]

19

20 **SUP. MOLINA:** THIS IS IT? THANK YOU.

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. PASTOR POPE, THEN DEACON
23 ALEXANDER AND THEN MRS. LILLIAN MOBLEY.

24



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1 **PASTOR POPE:** TO THE HONORABLE SUPERVISORS, MY NAME IS REGINALD
2 POPE. FOR THE LAST 29 YEARS, PASTOR OF THE BETHEL MISSIONARY
3 BAPTIST CHURCH AT 109TH AND COMPTON AVENUE, JUST ABOUT 12
4 BLOCKS FROM WHERE WE ARE IN THIS LOCATION. I STAND THIS
5 AFTERNOON BEARING THE WISHES AND THE HOPE, NOT ONLY OF THE
6 BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH BUT OF THE THOUSANDS OF
7 CITIZENS SURROUNDING THIS AREA. AND THAT HOPE IS THAT YOU
8 WOULD FIND IT IN YOUR HEARTS TO DO THAT WHICH ENHANCES LIFE
9 INSTEAD OF ENDANGERING IT, TO DO THAT WHICH SAVES LIVES
10 INSTEAD OF SACRIFICING THEM. WE'VE BEEN ACCUSTOMED TO HEARING
11 THE REGULAR BASIS OF THE SHRILL SOUNDS OF THE SIRENS THAT THE
12 GOOD SAMARITANS OF THIS 21ST CENTURY SPEED TO GET SOME WOUNDED
13 PERSON INTO THE HELPFUL HANDS OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVE
14 IN THE TRAUMA CENTER OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOSPITAL.
15 [APPLAUSE]

16

17 **PASTOR REGINOLD POPE:** THE FACT THAT THE SIRENS ARE SOUNDING
18 AND THE VEHICLES ARE SPEEDING SAYS THAT LIFE HANGS ON TIME AND
19 HENCE IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO LENGTHEN THE TIME BY MOVING THE
20 TRAUMA CENTER FURTHER AWAY FROM WHERE THE TRAUMA OCCURS. [
21 APPLAUSE]

22

23 **PASTOR REGINOLD POPE:** AS A MINISTER IN THIS COMMUNITY, I'VE
24 HAD A CHANCE TO STAND BESIDE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS AS THEIR
25 LOVED ONES WAS TREATED IN THIS TRAUMA CENTER. FAMILIES LIKE



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1 JAMES B. HALL, WHOSE SON, JIMMY, WAS BROUGHT IN WITH A
2 DIABETIC COMA. THEY GOT THERE TOO LATE. JIMMY DIDN'T MAKE IT.
3 BUT AT LEAST THEY HAD A PLACE TO TAKE HIM. THEIR OTHER SON,
4 MARCUS, WAS BROUGHT IN WITH MULTIPLE GUNSHOT WOUNDS. THANKS TO
5 THE TIMELY SERVICE OF THE TRAUMA CENTER, MARCUS STILL LIVES. [
6 APPLAUSE]

7

8 **PASTOR REGINOLD POPE:** FINALLY, I WAS HERE WHEN MY OWN COUSIN,
9 WADE HUGHES, JR., WAS WHEELED IN, HAVING BEEN BEATEN AND
10 STABBED REPEATEDLY, LEFT ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD TO DIE.

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

13

14 **PASTOR REGINOLD POPE:** BUT THANKS TO THE GOOD SAMARITANS KNOWN
15 AS THE PARAMEDIC AND THE L.A. FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE ANGELS
16 OF MERCY KNOWN AS THE DOCTORS AND NURSES IN THE TRAUMA CENTER,
17 WADE HUGHES STILL LIVES AND RESIDES IN THE STATE OF
18 CALIFORNIA.

19

20 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, PASTOR.

21

22 **SUP. MOLINA:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

23

24 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** DON'T BE POINTING YOUR FINGERS UP HERE. WE
25 HAVE A LOT OF PEOPLE TO TESTIFY. I'M JUST...



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1

2 **SUP. MOLINA:** THANK YOU. [INTERJECTIONS]

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY, PLEASE SIT DOWN.

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA:** THANK YOU!

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** HE SAID-- EXCUSE ME. HE SAID, "IN CLOSING."

9 I CALLED ON THE DEACON. [INTERJECTIONS]

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** DEACON ALEXANDER.

12

13 **PASTOR REGINOLD POPE:** MAY I SUBMIT THE REST OF MY ADDRESS TO

14 THIS HONORABLE BOARD? THANK YOU SO MUCH.

15

16 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, PASTOR. [APPLAUSE]

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** DEACON ALEXANDER, FOLLOWED BY MRS. MOBLEY,

19 FOLLOWED BY MARY HENRY.

20

21 **DEACON JOSE ALEXANDER:** CHAIRMAN KNABE, I'M DEACON JOSE

22 ALEXANDER FROM THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH HOLY NAME OF JESUS

23 LOCATED AT CIMARRON AND JEFFERSON IN LOS ANGELES. I HAVE

24 SUBMITTED TO YOU PRINTED DOCUMENTS AND ALSO A VIDEOTAPE, A

25 TAPE OF A SHOW, THE ST. MARTIN DE PORRES HOUR, WHICH WAS RUN



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1 THIS PAST FRIDAY AT 4:30 AND 8:30 P.M. ON THE COMCAST CHANNEL
2 PACIFICA ACCESS, PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL. SO AT LEAST 500,000
3 PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY SEEN, IN SUMMARY, WHAT I'M ABOUT TO DO
4 RIGHT NOW. WE DID THAT IN 28 MINUTES AND 30 SECONDS. I'M HERE
5 TO TELL YOU THAT I'M HERE TO BUILD BRIDGES. DR. GARTHWAITE,
6 YOU ALREADY HAVE THE CAPABILITY AT KING HOSPITAL TO BUILD THAT
7 HOSPITAL THAT SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY WANTS. HE WANTS A
8 HIGH QUALITY HOSPITAL. YOU ALREADY HAVE ONE. THE AGENCY FOR
9 HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY RELEASED SOME DATA IN JULY OF
10 THIS YEAR. THAT DATA SHOWS THAT, ON THE AVERAGE, THERE ARE 155
11 MEDICAL ERROR DEATHS THAT COMMONLY OCCUR IN HOSPITALS. THANKS
12 TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, THE KING HAD SIX IN JUST TWO YEARS.
13 THAT MEANS THREE OVER, LIKE, 1,600 ADMISSIONS. THAT MEANS THAT
14 THEY ONLY HAD TWO IN 1,000. THAT MEANS THAT KING ALREADY IS A
15 QUALITY HEALTHCARE CENTER. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

16

17 **DEACON JOSE ALEXANDER:** IN 1971, I MANAGED THE URBAN HEALTH
18 SYSTEMS TASKS FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE
19 ADMINISTRATION. AT THE TIME, I WAS WITH CAL TECH JET
20 PROPULSION LABORATORY. WE SIMULATED THE ADMISSIONS SYSTEMS AT
21 HARVARD GENERAL HOSPITAL. AND, AT THE TIME, THEY THOUGHT IT
22 WAS IMPOSSIBLE. WE THINK THAT NAVIGANT NEEDS TO DO THE
23 FOLLOWING THING: IF YOU DON'T HAVE A MODEL OF THE SYSTEM, YOU
24 WILL NOT KNOW WHAT IMPACT CHANGES YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE WILL
25 HAVE ON THAT SYSTEM. OUR RECOMMENDATION TO YOU IS THAT, SINCE



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1 YOU SPENT \$13 MILLION, YOU OUGHT TO GET ONE THING OUT OF
2 NAVIGANT: YOU OUGHT TO GET A SIMULATION MODEL OUT OF THEM. THE
3 DECISION ON CALIFORNIA HOSPITALS IS AT RISK. HERE'S THE REASON
4 WHY. ONE-- ON THIS-- THE DATE IS GOOD FRIDAY, 1974, THE THREAT
5 OF A GAS LEAK...

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. DO YOU WANT TO WRAP IT UP, YOUR
8 TIME'S UP?

9

10 **DEACON JOSE ALEXANDER:** I'M GOING TO WRAP IT UP IN JUST A
11 MINUTE. AND HERE'S WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU. A GRIDLOCK NEAR THE
12 HALL OF ADMINISTRATION MEANS IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO YOU, YOU
13 CAN'T GET TO THE EMERGENCY CENTER. THAT'S CALIFORNIA MEDICAL
14 CENTER. YOU DON'T WANT TO DO THAT.

15

16 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MRS. MOBLEY, FOLLOWED BY MARY
17 HENRY, FOLLOWED BY SUSAN ROACH. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE] [
18 ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

19

20 **LILLIAN MOBLEY:** FIRST, GIVING HONOR TO GOD. MY REASON FOR
21 BEING. MY HEART IS FILLED TODAY AND I FEEL GOOD. I FEEL GOOD
22 NO MATTER HOW YOU VOTE. I FEEL GOOD BECAUSE THE PEOPLE HERE IS
23 SAYING, "WE DON'T LIKE IT AND WE'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE IT." [
24 CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

25



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1 **LILLIAN MOBLEY:** THE HONORABLE SUPERVISORS, WE HAVE MADE MANY
2 TRIPS DOWN TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL.
3 WITH INTEGRITY, WITH DECENCY, WITH HONESTY AND FAIRNESS, WE
4 HAVE DONE THAT. BUT, AS YOU PUT MARTIN LUTHER KING ON A
5 MICROSCOPE, YOU NEED TO TURN AROUND AND LOOK AT DR. GARTHWAITE
6 AND GIVE A REAL LOOK OF WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF
7 HEALTHCARE SERVICES. NOW, YOU KNOW IF THIS WAS AT YOUR HOUSE,
8 YOU WOULDN'T ALLOW ANYBODY... [INTERJECTIONS]

9

10 **LILLIAN MOBLEY:** ...TO MAKE YOU LOOK AS BAD AS THE SUPERVISORS.
11 YOU WOULD NOT LET THAT HAPPEN. YOU WOULD NEVER ALLOW THAT TO
12 HAPPEN. AND, IF ANY EX-ADMINISTRATOR FROM MARTIN LUTHER KING
13 HOSPITAL WOULD WALK UP HERE IN MY FACE TODAY AND TELL ME THAT
14 THEY EVER RAN ANYTHING AT MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL, I WOULD
15 TELL THEM THEY ARE LYING. THEY NEVER HAVE. AND THERE'S SOME
16 HERE TODAY. MARTIN LUTHER KING HAS ALWAYS BEEN MANAGED FROM
17 DOWNTOWN. ALWAYS. THEY CAN'T GO TO THE BATHROOM UNLESS THEY
18 CALL DOWNTOWN AND SEE WHAT TIME TO GO. WE MIGHT AS WELL BE
19 HONEST AND DECENT AND FAIR TODAY AND, ON THE COMMUNITY PART,
20 WE ARE GOING TO BE JUST THAT. EVERYBODY HAVE GIVEN YOU THE
21 STATISTICS, THEY HAVE GIVEN YOU THE FACTS, THEY'VE GIVEN YOU A
22 LOT OF SOUND, GOOD INFORMATION, AND WHAT YOU DO WITH IT IS UP
23 TO YOU. WE WANT TO WORK WITH YOU, I TOLD YOU ONCE BEFORE
24 DOWNTOWN. WE REALLY WANT TO WORK WITH YOU BUT WE DARE PEOPLE
25 TO KEEP COMING IN AND TALKING ABOUT HOW HORRIBLE MARTIN LUTHER



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1 KING HOSPITAL IS WHEN, ULTIMATELY, YOU KNOW WHO'S IN CHARGE.
2 WE WILL NO LONGER SIT BY. I HAVE DEMONSTRATED, I'VE DONE
3 EVERYTHING IN FAIRNESS THAT I KNOW HOW TO DO AND GOD HAVEN'T
4 TAKEN THE FIGHT OUT OF ME YET. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND
5 APPLAUSE]

6

7 **LILLIAN MOBLEY:** TOO MUCH OF ME SACRIFICED FOR US TO JUST GIVE
8 UP AND ROLL OVER LIKE FIDO AND PLAY DEAD. WE DON'T PARTICIPATE
9 IN DOG AND PONY SHOWS. THAT'S NOT WHY WE ARE HERE. THIS IS
10 ABOUT SERIOUS BUSINESS AND EVERY SPEAKER THAT HAVE GOTTEN UP
11 HERE TODAY HAVE TOLD YOU THE TRUTH ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON. YOU
12 HAVE TO LOOK AT WHO'S COOKING THE BOOKS. YOU GO TO DO THAT.
13 YOU HAVE TO LOOK AT WHO'S DOING IT. AND, IF WE ARE GOING TO BE
14 TRUTHFUL AND DECENT WITH EACH OTHER, WE'VE GOT TO TAKE A LOOK
15 AT THIS. I WOULD HOPE THAT YOU WOULDN'T VOTE TOMORROW. I WOULD
16 HOPE THAT YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH INFORMATION SHARED WITH YOU OVER
17 THE YEARS. FOR SOME OF US, THIS HAS BEEN A 40-YEAR FIGHT. A
18 40-YEAR FIGHT. I KNOW HOW HARD IT WAS FOR KENNY HAHN WHEN HE
19 WAS THERE. THEY CALLED HIM EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD ABOUT
20 TAKING CARE OF WATTS, WILLOWBROOK, SOUTH CENTRAL BUT HE STAYED
21 THE COURSE. HE STAYED THE COURSE. WE ARE HERE TONIGHT STANDING
22 WITH OUR SUPERVISOR TO TELL HER AND TELL HER THAT WE'LL WORK
23 WITH HER BUT WE CANNOT LET YOU TAKE A LIFE, ONE LIFE, OUT OF
24 THIS COMMUNITY. I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY OF YOU HAVE EVER SEEN
25 ANYBODY WITH THEIR BRAINS BLOWN OUT. I HAVE. I'VE SEEN MY



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1 NEIGHBOR'S SON WITH HIS BRAINS HANGING OUT HIS HEAD AND WENT
2 TO MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL. I'VE SEEN ALL KINDS OF
3 INJURIES. AND THEY CAME HERE AND THEY WERE SAVED. GREG WAS
4 HERE, SHOT UP, WAS AFRAID BECAUSE OF THE NAMES THEY CALL
5 HOSPITALS. BUT HE CAME AND WE TOLD HIM HE WAS KEEPING WATCH,
6 VIGILANT OVER HERE. WE TRY TO TAKE CARE OF OUR KIDS AND OUR
7 FAMILY AND OUR FRIENDS. WE TRY TO DO THAT. WE ARE NOT MEAN,
8 EVIL PEOPLE. WE ARE NOT. BUT WE CAN'T SIT AROUND AND LET THE
9 CAT AND THE BIRDS AND THE PIGEONS AND THE ELEPHANTS GO TO
10 BATHROOM ON OUR HEAD AND SAY IT'S OKAY. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS
11 AND APPLAUSE]

12

13 **LILLIAN MOBLEY:** NONE OF YOU, NONE OF YOU, NOT A ONE OF YOU
14 WILL WANT TO BE DRIVING DOWN THE FREEWAY AND GET HURT OR FALL
15 OFF THE BRIDGE. WE HAVE PEOPLE IN CONSTRUCTION WORK THAT BUILD
16 THE FREEWAYS AROUND HERE. YOU WOULDN'T WANT A SCAFFOLD OR
17 SOMETHING TO FALL AND THERE'S NOT A TRAUMA CENTER TO TAKE CARE
18 OF IT. YOU WOULDN'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN. YOU DON'T WANT TO
19 HEAR IT ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORS. WE HEAR WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR
20 NEIGHBORS AND OUR FRIENDS, OUR CLIENTS EVERY DAY AND THAT'S
21 WHY WE GET THE COURAGE AND THE ENERGY TO COME OUT AND TELL
22 YOU, WORK WITH US. BE HONEST AND DECENT AND FAIR ENOUGH TO
23 WORK WITH US. WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE. [INTERJECTIONS]

24

25 **LILLIAN MOBLEY:** WE ARE NOT GOING TO GO ANY PLACE. [APPLAUSE]



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1

2 **LILLIAN MOBLEY:** SO I'M TELLING YOU TODAY, EITHER SIT DOWN AND
3 WORK WITH US OR ALL OF US WILL SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES. AMEN.
4 [APPLAUSE]

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND
7 APPLAUSE]

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND
10 APPLAUSE CONTINUES]

11

12 **AUDIENCE CHANTING:** SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW!

13

14 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** MARY HENRY FOLLOWED BY SUSAN RHODES,
15 FOLLOWED BY T. D. WASHINGTON, FOLLOWED BY BEVERLY BLAKE.

16

17 **AUDIENCE CHANTING:** SAVE KING DREW! SAVE KING DREW!

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** MARY AND THEN SUSAN AND GERRY WASHINGTON
20 AND BEVERLY BLAKE.

21

22 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** GOOD AFTERNOON. I'M GERALDINE
23 WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT OF THE LOS ANGELES N.A.A.C.P. AND I'M
24 HERE TODAY TO SPEAK FOR N.A.A.C.P. [APPLAUSE]

25



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1 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** SO I FIRST WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR
2 THE TIME THAT YOU'RE GIVING AND TO THANK ALL OF YOU BUT ALSO
3 TO SAY A WORD OF THANKS TO MY SUPERVISOR, SUPERVISOR BURKE,
4 BECAUSE WE STILL NEED YOU, SUPERVISOR BURKE AND WE HOPE THAT
5 THE OTHER MEMBERS-- WE GOT IT, ALL RIGHT. VERY GOOD. WELL,
6 THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK ON THIS TOPIC. IT WAS
7 NOT LONG AGO THAT KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER WAS A MODEL UNIT
8 THAT MANY OTHER HOSPITALS AND COUNTIES USED AND EMULATED. THE
9 ARMED FORCES SENT A NUMBER OF THEIR DOCTORS TO KING DREW TO
10 OBSERVE, TO BE INSTRUCTED, AND TO BE TRAINED FIRSTHAND HOW TO
11 TIMELY AND SUCCESSFULLY TREAT TRAUMA VICTIMS OF GUNSHOT
12 WOUNDS, HEAD INJURIES AND OTHER LIFE-THREATENING INJURIES, HOW
13 TO TREAT THEM SUCCESSFULLY AND UNDER EXTREME AND PROLONGED
14 TIME PRESSURES. JUST LIKE ANY PRECISION MACHINE, NEGLECT, OVER
15 TIME, WILL BREAK IT DOWN AND ITS EFFECTIVENESS WILL DECLINE.
16 THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED TO KING DREW. IT WAS NOT THE DOCTORS OR
17 THE NURSES OR THE OTHER DILIGENT MEDICAL AND STAFF PERSONNEL.
18 IT WAS MR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE, COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER AND
19 COUNTY-- AND COUNTY SUPERVISORS, I WILL INCLUDE YOU IN THAT
20 BECAUSE I KNOW THAT YOU TWO SHARE OVERSIGHT BUT IT WAS THOSE
21 OF YOU WHO CLOSED YOUR EYES TO THE NEEDS OF KING DREW TO
22 PROVIDE MORE DOCTORS, MORE NURSES, MORE MEDICAL STAFF AND THE
23 NEED TO REPLACE WORN AND BROKEN EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY AND
24 TRAINING TO GO WITH THAT, SO THE RESULTS WERE THAT, ONE DAY,
25 WE LOOKED UP AND KING DREW WAS IN TROUBLE. NOW THAT KING



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1 DREW'S TRAUMA SYSTEM IS BROKEN, THOSE RESPONSIBLE WANT TO
2 BLAME THE STAFF AND THE DOCTORS FOR THE PROBLEM. THEY WANT TO
3 BLAME THE PUBLIC FOR BEING VICTIMS OF TRAUMA AND THEY WANT TO
4 BLAME THE COUNTY AND THE STATE AND THE COUNTRY FOR A LACK OF
5 FUNDING. THEY BLAME EVERYBODY BUT THEMSELVES. WE CAN RESPECT
6 AN ARGUMENT OF LACK OF FUNDS, WHICH MAY FORCE US TO BE MORE
7 SPARE BUT WE CANNOT ACCEPT CLOSING THE TRAUMA CENTER BECAUSE
8 MR. GARTHWAITE'S INEPTNESS IN BLAMING THE HOSPITAL...

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** DO YOU WANT TO WRAP IT UP, YOUR TIME'S UP.

11

12 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** ...FOR A PROBLEM THEY CREATED AND
13 IGNORED UNTIL THEIR-- I AM SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THOUSANDS OF
14 PEOPLE, INCLUDING THE NATIONAL OFFICE AND I RESPECTFULLY ASK
15 THAT YOU ALLOW ME TO COMPLETE MY STATEMENT. [ENTHUSIASTIC
16 CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

17

18 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** BLAMING THE HOSPITAL FOR PROBLEMS THEY
19 CREATED AND IGNORED UNTIL, IN THEIR OPINION, THE HOSPITAL WAS
20 TOO BROKEN TO FIX. WELL, WE, THE PUBLIC, RESENT THAT STATEMENT
21 AND WE KNOW NOW THAT IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO THINK ABOUT FIXING
22 IT. THIS IS DEFINITELY A SLAP IN THE FACE OF OUR COMMUNITY.
23 EVEN IN ITS WEAKENED STATE, KING DREW TRAUMA SYSTEM HAS
24 CONTINUED TO HELP OUR COMMUNITIES. IT HAS CONTINUED TO SAVE
25 LIVES OF OUR FAMILY MEMBERS, NEIGHBORS, FRIENDS AND PEOPLE WE



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1 DON'T EVEN KNOW BECAUSE THEY WERE VICTIMS OF ACCIDENTS OR
2 PEOPLE JUST PASSING THROUGH. SO WE DEMAND THAT THOSE
3 RESPONSIBLE FIX THIS PROBLEM. THEY CREATED IT. WE CHALLENGE
4 THEM TO EITHER RESIGN AND LET SOMEBODY ELSE STEP IN... [
5 ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

6

7 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** ...OR FIX IT. TO ADD INSULT TO INJURY,
8 WE OPENED THE MORNING LOS ANGELES TIMES ONE MORNING THIS PAST
9 WEEKEND AND WERE JOLTED BY THE ACTIONS OF MR. GARTHWAITE
10 WHICH, IN EFFECT, WITHOUT DUE PROCESS, ALREADY STARTED THE
11 FIRST REAL STEP TO DISMANTLE KING DREW HOSPITAL. EMERGENCY
12 VEHICLES WERE GIVEN THE ORDERS AND DIVERTED AWAY FROM KING
13 TRAUMA CENTER TO OTHER HOSPITALS.

14

15 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. COULD YOU WRAP IT UP, PLEASE SO WE
16 CAN...

17

18 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** I CERTAINLY WILL. THANK YOU.

19

20 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

21

22 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** TONIGHT, WE SEND A MESSAGE, DON'T CLOSE
23 IT. FIX IT. DISCUSS IT, TALK ABOUT WHOEVER, WHATEVER, HOWEVER
24 AND WHOMEVER BUT JUST FIX IT. [APPLAUSE]

25



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1 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** AS WE REFLECT OVER THESE LAST TWO OR
2 THREE DAYS, WE KNOW THAT THERE REALLY IS, IN OUR OPINION, AN
3 ATTEMPT TO CLOSE KING DREW.

4

5 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IF YOU WANT TO JUST...

6

7 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** WE WILL BE WATCHING AND WE THANK YOU FOR
8 YOUR ATTENTION.

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IF YOU WANT TO-- MA'AM, IF YOU CAN SUBMIT
11 THE WRITTEN COMMENTS FOR THE RECORD, TOO, IF YOU'D LIKE.

12

13 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** OH, NO. I COMPLETED MY STATEMENT.

14

15 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. JEANNIE WASHINGTON, MARY HENRY, SUSAN
16 RHODES, BEVERLY BLAKE. PLEASE. IF I HAVEN'T CALLED YOUR NAME,
17 PLEASE DON'T GET IN LINE. OKAY? IF I HAVEN'T..

18

19 **LUIS A. CARILLO:** JEANNIE IS GOING TO TAKE MY PLACE. I'M TAKING
20 HER PLACE.

21

22 **GERALDINE WASHINGTON:** I YIELD MY TIME TO HIM.

23

24 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** AND YOUR NAME?

25



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1 **LUIS A. CARILLO:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH, JEANNIE. MY NAME IS LUIS
2 CARILLO. MY NAME IS COMING UP SHORTLY, BUT I HAVE TO GO PICK
3 UP MY GRANDSONS BY 7:00, SO I HAVE TO RUSH OUT OF HERE. I WANT
4 TO THANK MAXINE WATERS FOR FORMING THIS BEAUTIFUL COALITION. [
5 ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

6

7 **LUIS A. CARILLO:** MAXINE WATERS HAS BROUGHT TOGETHER THE
8 AFRICAN-AMERICAN, LATINO AND WHITE COMMUNITIES... [
9 INTERJECTIONS]

10

11 **LUIS A. CARILLO:** ...TO SAVE THE TRAUMA CENTER AND I THANK YOU.
12 YOU'RE A FEARLESS FREEDOM FIGHTER, MAXINE. I LOVE YOU. [
13 ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

14

15 **LUIS A. CARILLO:** I WANT TO SPEAK TO YOU WITH MY HEART.
16 GARCETTI, HE POINTED OUT SOME PROBLEMS. YOU DIDN'T COMPLY WITH
17 THE BROWN ACT. PERHAPS THERE WAS A RUSH, A RUSH TO JUDGMENT. I
18 WANT TO ASK YOU TO RECONSIDER, TO POSTPONE THE DECISION OF
19 CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL AND ALSO TO RECONSIDER OTHER VIABLE
20 OPTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN PRESENTED TO YOU TODAY. THERE'S NO RUSH
21 TO SAVE THE TRAUMA CENTER. THERE'S NO RUSH FOR YOU TO MAKE A
22 DECISION IN ORDER TO SAVE THE TRAUMA CENTER AND WHAT WE LACK
23 IN THIS SOCIETY IS CAREFUL JUDGMENT CONSIDERING THE IMPACT ON
24 HUMAN LIVES. THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT. GEORGE BUSH WAS IN A RUSH
25 TO JUDGMENT TO TAKE THIS COUNTRY TO WAR OVER A 1,000 SERVICE



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1 PEOPLE AND 30 TO A HUNDRED THOUSAND IRAQIS ARE DEAD NOW. SO,
2 IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY, PLEASE TAKE A STEP BACK. MEET WITH
3 SOME OF THE FOLKS HERE. CERTAINLY, MEET WITH THE ELECTED
4 OFFICIALS SO THAT YOU CAN TRY TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM. AND
5 JESSE JACKSON'S WORDS OF INSPIRATION WERE VERY MOVING, AND I
6 THINK THAT IS A WAY FOR US TO GET TOGETHER, BECAUSE NOBODY
7 WANTS TO DAMAGE THE COMMUNITY THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DAMAGED
8 FOR YEARS BUT YOUR ACTIONS, DR. GARTHWAITE, I CAN'T EVEN
9 PRONOUNCE YOUR NAME, YOUR ACTIONS, YOU'RE PROBABLY WORKING IN
10 GOOD FAITH. HOWEVER, YOU'RE SO REMOVED BECAUSE YOU'RE A
11 BUREAUCRAT, THAT SOMETIMES YOU DON'T FEEL THE IMPACT UNTIL YOU
12 SEE IT LIKE YOU SEE IT TODAY. THIS IS WHAT YOU HAVE TO
13 CONSIDER. THE HUMAN CAPITAL. YOU'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT
14 FINANCIAL CAPITAL OR...

15

16 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

17

18 **LUIS A. CARILLO:** ...BUT LOOK AT THE HUMAN IMPACT THAT YOU'RE
19 MAKING ON THE COMMUNITY. MAXINE, I LOVE YA. [CHEERS AND
20 APPLAUSE]

21

22 **PAMELA NARCISO:** I'M PAMELA NARCISO WITH THE _____
23 COMMITTEE. MY NAME IS PAMELA NARCISO WITH THE _____
24 COMMITTEE.

25



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1 **SPEAKER:** YOU ARE?

2

3 **PAMELA NARCISO:** AND I JUST WANT TO SAY THIS. YES, YES, SIR.
4 MY GOOD FRIEND...

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WHO ARE YOU?

7

8 **PAMELA NARCISO:** PAMELA NARCISO _____ WITH THE
9 _____ COMMITTEE. MY HUSBAND AND I HAVE BEEN HERE FOR
10 THREE GENERATIONS. I JUST WANT TO LET YOU KNOW...

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. AND IF I HAVEN'T CALLED-- PLEASE. I
13 MEAN, I'M TRYING TO GET-- WE'VE GOT ALL THESE PEOPLE TO
14 TESTIFY, WE'VE GOT ALL THESE...

15

16 **PAMELA NARCISO:** I UNDERSTAND.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** I'M CALLING THEM BY NAMES AND IF YOU CAN,
19 YOU KNOW, ABIDE BY THAT, YOU KNOW?

20

21 **PAMELA NARCISO:** I UNDERSTAND BUT I WANT TO SPEAK. I NEED TO
22 SPEAK.

23

24 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** MARY HENRY, SUSAN RHODES, BEVERLY BLAKE AND
25 BOBBY ANDERSON. GO AHEAD.



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1

2 **PAMELA NARCISSO:** YVONNE? WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO YOU, SIR, I'M
3 HERE ON BEHALF OF MY GOOD ADVISORY FOR THE COMMITTEE, FOR THE
4 _____ COMMITTEE. HER NAME WAS ANITA LUGO KING, THE
5 WIFE OF CELES KING III AND I AM EMOTIONAL BECAUSE I LOVE ANITA
6 BECAUSE THEY FOUGHT RIGHT ON THE SIDE, LILLIAN MOBLEY AND
7 SUPPORT MAXINE. IF ANYBODY KNEW CELES, YVONNE, YOU KNEW CELES?
8 BRAITHWAITE-BURKE, YVONNE BURKE AND CONGRESSMAN. THIS IS
9 EMOTIONAL FOR ME. I TOLD HER I WOULD GO TO THE END TO LET THEM
10 KNOW HOW SHE FELT AND HOW WE FELT, THAT WE MUST KEEP THIS
11 TRAUMA EMERGENCY HOSPITAL OPEN. THERE ARE CHILDREN AT STAKE
12 HERE. DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE KIDS WHO GOT KILLED IN COMPTON
13 13, 14 YEARS OLD. WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT YOUNG MAN? HOW COME HE
14 WAS NOT TRANSFERRED HERE? HE GOT TRANSFERRED TO LONG BEACH
15 MEMORIAL, WHERE HE DIED. WE FIGHT FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS, AND
16 THIS IS WHAT I'M FIGHTING FOR. I'M TELLING YOU, I'M ASKING YOU
17 IN THE NAME, IN THE LEGACY OF ANITA LUGO KING AND MYSELF AND
18 THE _____ COMMITTEE, CELES KING III AND I CAN SPEAK
19 FOR THEM BECAUSE I AM THE ONE THAT TOOK CARE THE LAST FIVE
20 YEARS AND I GAVE IT FROM MY HEART. THEY ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE
21 THIS TRAUMA CENTER OPEN, THEY ALWAYS KNEW THERE WAS SOMETHING
22 WRONG. THERE IS A PROBLEM WITH MR. THOMAS GARTHWAITE. YOU'VE
23 GOTTA GO. HE NEEDS TO RESIGN.

24

25 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.



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1

2 **PAMELA NARCISSO:** IF YOU CAN'T RESIGN, THEN WE NEED TO RECALL
3 HIM.

4

5 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

6

7 **PAMELA NARCISSO:** BECAUSE WE NEED TO MOVE ON. THINK ABOUT OUR
8 CHILDREN. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

11

12 **ADRIAN DOVE:** SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF MARY HENRY.

13

14 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** I'M TRYING TO BRING SOME SEMBLANCE OF ORDER
15 TO THIS PROCESS. A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED UP. IF I DON'T
16 CALL YOUR NAME-- PLEASE WAIT 'TIL I CALL YOUR NAME THEN GET IN
17 LINE WHEN WE CALL YOU SO...

18

19 **ADRIAN DOVE:** YEAH, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF MARY HENRY, I'M
20 ADRIAN DOVE, CHAIRMAN OF THE... [INTERJECTIONS]

21

22 **FEMALE VOICE:** THAT'S WHY HE HAS NOT CALLED MY NAME!

23

24 **SUP. BURKE:** WE'LL FIND YOUR NAME. WE'LL FIND IT.

25



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1 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WE'LL FIND YOUR NAME. I DID NOT HAVE A SLIP
2 ON YOU UNDER THE ELECTED OFFICIALS. I'M NOT TRYING-- WE'LL GET
3 YOU UP THERE.

4
5 **SUP. BURKE:** WE'LL FIND YOUR NAME.

6
7 **ADRIAN DOVE:** MINE IS VERY BRIEF. MY NAME IS ADRIAN DOVE. I'M
8 CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY OF CALIFORNIA AND
9 WE'VE BEEN STRUGGLING WITH THIS FOR QUITE A LONG TIME AND WE
10 INTEND TO STAY WITH IT. I THINK IT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS TODAY THAT
11 THERE HAS NOT BEEN ONE SPEAKER WHO SAID, "PLEASE CLOSE THE
12 TRAUMA CENTER." EVERY SINGLE SPEAKER HAS BEEN FOR KEEPING IT
13 OPEN AND SAVING THE WHOLE ENTIRE HOSPITAL. I THINK SOMETHING
14 ELSE THAT'S EVIDENT IS THAT THE ACT ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF
15 DR. GARTHWAITE TO PROPOSE CLOSING THIS CENTER IS OF SUCH
16 NATURE, OF SUCH MAGNITUDE THAT WE HAVE 10,000 PEOPLE OUT IN
17 THE STREET, OUTSIDE AND I THINK THE FACTS THAT ARE SO WELL
18 KNOWN BY MANY OF OUR SPEAKERS AND PARTICULARLY OUR LEADERS
19 LIKE MAXINE WATERS, THAT IT'S PRETTY CLEAR THAT THERE NEEDS TO
20 BE A DIFFERENT COURSE OF ACTION TAKEN. NOW, THERE'S TWO WAYS
21 TO GO AT IT. ONE WAY AND I'M A PLAINTIFF-- CO-PLAINTIFF WITH
22 THE DOCTORS AT MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL, THE CONGRESS OF
23 RACIAL EQUALITY AND THE DOCTORS ARE FILING A LAWSUIT, HAVE
24 FILED A LAWSUIT AND SEEKING A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER
25 AGAINST THE CLOSING IN THE FEDERAL COURTS AS A CIVIL RIGHTS



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1 CASE. THE OTHER WAY, THE EASIER WAY, IS IF THE BOARD OF
2 SUPERVISORS OR ITS REPRESENTATIVE SITS TO THE TABLE ACROSS
3 FROM MAXINE WATERS, THE GOOD DOCTOR WHO SPOKE AND MAYBE A
4 MEDIATOR FROM OUTSIDE, LIKE JESSE JACKSON, WHO SUGGESTED IT
5 AND LIKE IN THE WORDS OF RODNEY KING, "CAN WE ALL GET ALONG?"
6 YOU KNOW? LET US SIT DOWN AND NEGOTIATE THIS THING BECAUSE IT
7 SEEMS AS THOUGH NOBODY ADMITS TO WANTING TO CLOSE THE
8 HOSPITAL. SOME PEOPLE FEEL VERY STRONG ABOUT HOLDING OPEN THIS
9 TRAUMA UNIT, SO LET US ADMIT IT TO ARBITRATION BY REVEREND
10 JESSE JACKSON. THANK YOU.

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. SUSAN RHODES, BEVERLY BLAKE,
13 BOBBY ANDERSON AND MAE THOMAS.

14

15 **TIM WATKINS:** MY NAMES TIM WATKINS. SUSAN RHODES HAS YIELDED
16 HER TIME TO ME. I AM THE PRODUCT OF A WHITE WOMAN THAT MARRIED
17 A BLACK MAN FROM MISSISSIPPI THAT CAME HERE WHEN HE WAS 13
18 YEARS OLD TO ESCAPE A LYNCH MOB. AND I JUST HAVE TO TELL YOU
19 THAT, TODAY, THE WHITE MAN IN ME IS TIRED OF SEEING THE BLACK
20 MAN IN ME TREATED AS THOUGH HE JUST DOESN'T REALLY MATTER. [
21 CHEERS AND APPLAUSE] [GAVEL]

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** PLEASE LET HIM TESTIFY. GO AHEAD.

24



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1 **TIM WATKINS:** WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT A RACE CARD HERE; WHAT
2 WE'RE TALKING ABOUT IS WHETHER OR NOT-- WHETHER OR NOT THE
3 WILL OF THIS COMMUNITY WILL BE EXPRESSED THROUGH THE DECISION-
4 MAKING AUTHORITY OF YOU AS A GROUP OF POLICY SETTERS AND
5 DECISION MAKERS. AND WHAT I WOULD ASK YOU, WHAT I WOULD ASK
6 YOU IS PLEASE, PLEASE DO NOT LYNCH THAT INSTITUTION ACROSS THE
7 STREET. [APPLAUSE]

8

9 **TIM WATKINS:** LET YOUR DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY REFLECT THE
10 WILL OF THE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE THAT TURNED OUT, MISSED WORK,
11 LET THEIR FAMILIES GO BY THE WAYSIDE FOR TODAY TO COME OUT AND
12 EXPRESS THEMSELVES. PLEASE EXPRESS THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE IN
13 YOUR DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY. THANK YOU.

14

15 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

16

17 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** BEVERLY BLAKE, BOBBY ANDERSON, MAE THOMAS
18 AND ERIC PRIESTLEY.

19

20 **BEVERLY BLAKE:** BEVERLY BLAKE OF INTERAGENCY COUNCIL. I'M
21 SPEAKING TO YOU AS YOUR CONSTITUENT. WE ELECTED YOU TO OVERSEE
22 OUR INTERESTS IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. YOU HAVE HEARD OUR
23 VOICE. OUR INTEREST AND OUR POSITION IS WE WANT AND DEMAND TO
24 HAVE OUR TRAUMA CENTER. THAT IS OUR POSITION. IF YOU ARE



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1 FULFILLING YOUR DUTY, THEN YOU WILL REPRESENT OUR INTERESTS
2 AND KEEP THAT TRAUMA CENTER OPEN. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

3

4 **BEVERLY BLAKE:** IF YOU ARE NOT REPRESENTING OUR INTEREST IN
5 THIS MATTER, THEN WHOSE INTEREST ARE YOU REPRESENTING? [
6 INTERJECTIONS]

7

8 **BEVERLY BLAKE:** I SUGGEST THAT THE NEXT ACTION STEP, IF YOU ARE
9 REPRESENTING US, THAT YOUR NEXT ACTION STEP IS TO DISCONTINUE
10 ANY DECISION-MAKING AT TOMORROW'S MEETING AND DECIDE TO
11 CONVENE A NEUTRAL THIRD PARTY MEETING BETWEEN WHO YOU
12 REPRESENT OR WHO YOU WANT ON A COMMITTEE AND WHO OUR
13 CONGRESSWOMAN CHOOSES TO HAVE ON A COMMITTEE AND REACH THE
14 COMMON GOAL THAT ZEV TALKED ABOUT. IF THE ISSUE IS QUALITY
15 MEDICAL CARE, WE HAVE THE SKILL AND THE PEOPLE TO ESTABLISH
16 THE STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO REMEDY THAT. IF, INDEED, WE ARE BOTH
17 WORKING ON THE SAME ISSUE WITH THE SAME INTEREST, THEN YOU
18 WILL TAKE THE ACTION STEP TO SEE THAT IT'S CORRECTED. I HOPE
19 YOU DO THIS TOMORROW MORNING. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

20

21 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** BOBBY ANDERSON, MAE THOMAS, ERIC PRIESTLEY
22 AND DR. EVA HOLMES. BOBBY ANDERSON. OKAY. [APPLAUSE]

23

24 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** MAE THOMAS. MAE. MAE THOMAS. MAE THOMAS,
25 YOU'RE NEXT.



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1
2 **CELES KING:** THE HONORABLE BOARD, EVERYONE ELSE, DR.
3 GARTHWAITE, MR. LEAF, IF HE'S STILL AROUND, IT'S REALLY HARD
4 FOR ME TO TALK RIGHT NOW BECAUSE _____ YOU KNOW, WAS
5 MENTIONING-- MY FATHER SAID TO GOVERNOR REAGAN, HE SAID, "THE
6 PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE LEAST ALWAYS PAY THE MOST," WHETHER IT BE
7 EMOTIONALLY, WHETHER IT BE MORALLY, OR WHETHER IT BE
8 PHYSICALLY AND, IN THIS CASE, WHAT WE HAVE SEEN IS WE HAVE
9 SEEN A SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION OF A FINE QUALITY INSTITUTION. I
10 AGREE WITH YOU, RIGHT NOW, THIS HOSPITAL IS NOT COST
11 EFFECTIVE. IT CANNOT BE COST EFFECTIVE BECAUSE IT DOES NOT
12 HAVE A COMPLEMENT OF PEOPLE TO BE EFFECTIVE. WE NO LONGER HAVE
13 A HOSPITAL AS A FULL SERVICE HOSPITAL. WHAT WE HAVE NOW IS A
14 GLORIFIED CONVALESCENT HOME THAT IS SERVING APPROXIMATELY 20%
15 OR LESS OF ITS ACTUAL CAPACITY. THERE ARE NOT A HUNDRED PEOPLE
16 IN THAT HOSPITAL OVER THERE. YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT
17 DECOMPRESSION IS WHAT'S NEEDED? HOW DO YOU DECOMPRESS FROM 500
18 AND SOME PEOPLE TO LESS THAN A HUNDRED AND CALL IT AND SAY,
19 "WE NEED TO DECOMPRESS SOME MORE." WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO,
20 THROW THE REST OF THEM OUT? IS IT THE BABY WITH THE BATHWATER
21 PROGRAM? IS THAT WHAT IT'S ABOUT? IF IT IS, THEN WE, IN THIS
22 COMMUNITY, WOULD LIKE YOU TO JUST TELL US. TELL US FLAT OUT.
23 WE HAVE A SYSTEMATIC REASON FOR DOING WHAT WE'RE DOING AND
24 THAT IS TO ELIMINATE THIS HOSPITAL BECAUSE WE HAVE A NEW
25 MISSION IN MIND, WE HAVE A MISSION TO RE-GENTRIFY THIS



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1 COMMUNITY. WE HAVE A MISSION TO DESTROY WHAT ALREADY IS AND
2 PUT IN ITS PLACE A PROGRAM THAT WILL REBUILD IT IN A DREAM,
3 THAT IS REALLY A DREAM, BECAUSE WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE. I
4 TOLD THIS COMMISSION ONCE BEFORE, THIS BOARD, THAT WE WERE
5 TIRED, THAT WE WERE TIRED OF THE DUPLICITY, THAT WE WERE TIRED
6 OF THE MISMANAGEMENT BUT NOW WE'RE NO LONGER TIRED, WE'RE
7 STANDING UP, WE'RE TELLING YOU WE ARE HERE, WE'RE GOING TO
8 STAY HERE AND WE DON'T WANT THIS TRAUMA CENTER OR OUR HOSPITAL
9 CLOSED; WE WANT IT REBUILT! [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MAE THOMAS.

12

13 **LORAIN CERVANTES:** MAE THOMAS HAS GIVEN ME YOUR TIME.

14

15 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. WOULD YOU IDENTIFY YOURSELF, PLEASE?

16

17 **LORAIN CERVANTES:** LORAIN CERVANTES, COMPTON COLLEGE BOARD OF
18 TRUSTEES AND I'M FROM THIS COMMUNITY. AND THIS TIME LAST YEAR,
19 THAT TRAUMA CENTER SAVED MY FOSTER GRANDSON'S LIFE. HE'S NOW
20 WITH A HEART TRANSPLANT PATIENT. IF HE HAD A WAITED TO GET ANY
21 PLACE ELSE, HE WOULD HAVE DIED. YOU KNOW, WE DON'T HAVE THE
22 LUXURY THAT THE PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITIES WHERE YOU GUYS LIVE.
23 [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

24



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1 **LORAIN CERVANTES:** PARAMEDICS HAVE PICKED ME UP IN A LIFE-
2 THREATENING SITUATION THREE TIMES AND IF I HAD TO BE
3 TRANSPORTED AS FAR AS YOU WANT US TO BE TRANSPORTED, I WOULD
4 BE DEAD TODAY. AND I'M HERE TO TELL YOU, I'M A SENIOR CITIZEN
5 AND I HAVE MULTIPLE MEDICAL PROBLEMS BUT I WILL DIE MAKING
6 SURE THAT ALL OF YOU ARE REPLACED WHEN YOUR TIME COMES FOR
7 REELECTION. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

8

9 **LORAIN CERVANTES:** BECAUSE YOU ARE HERE TO REPRESENT THE PEOPLE
10 AND THE DECISION...

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** PLEASE LET HER TESTIFY.

13

14 **LORAIN CERVANTES:** ...TO CLOSE THIS TRAUMA CENTER IS NOT THE
15 VOICE OF THE PEOPLE. YOU FORGET WHERE YOU CAME FROM, AND
16 ESPECIALLY ONE OF THEM WHO WAS A COMMUNITY ACTIVIST, JUST LIKE
17 I HAVE BEEN FOR THE LAST 35 YEARS. I'M REALLY ASHAMED OF THE
18 WAY SHE'S CHANGED! [INTERJECTIONS]

19

20 **LORAIN CERVANTES:** YOU NEED TO COME BACK TO WHERE YOU ALL
21 STARTED! [INTERJECTIONS]

22

23 **LORAIN CERVANTES:** AND IF OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVES CAN'T SPEAK
24 UP FOR US, THEN WE'RE IN HOT WATER, WE ARE IN TROUBLE. THIS
25 HOSPITAL SERVES PEOPLE OF COLOR WHO DON'T HAVE TRANSPORTATION.



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1 PEOPLE COME HERE ON BUSES AND WALK INTO THE TRAUMA CENTER,
2 WALK INTO THE EMERGENCY ROOM, BECAUSE THEY NEED THIS HOSPITAL.
3 AND HOW CAN YOU SLEEP AT NIGHT? HOW CAN YOU CALL YOURSELF
4 RELIGIOUS PEOPLE AND YOU'RE DESTROYING LIVES? YOU'RE GOING TO
5 BE RESPONSIBLE FOR NUMEROUS DEATHS AND I TELL ANYBODY WHOSE
6 RELATIVE DIES TRYING TO GET TO SOME OTHER TRAUMA CENTER NEEDS
7 TO SUE YOU GUYS AS INDIVIDUALS!

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** MA'AM. [INTERJECTIONS]

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** [GAVEL] PLEASE LET HER TESTIFY.

14

15 **DR. EVA HOLMES:** I AM DR. EVA HOLMES, AND THAT IS MY SLAVE
16 NAME. MY AFRICAN NAME IS YAUSANTURA. I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY
17 TO THE COMMUNITY, ALWAYS FOLLOW THE MONEY. NOW, YOU KEEP
18 SAYING THAT THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM BUT I STILL SAY FOLLOW THE
19 MONEY. JUST RECENTLY, I WENT TO A PRIVATE HOSPITAL BECAUSE I
20 CAN AFFORD IT AND I HAD SURGERY. AND THE DOCTOR DID AN
21 OUTSTANDING JOB. THE ONLY THING ABOUT IT, WHEN HE CUT ME, HE
22 FOUND OUT THAT I DIDN'T NEED THE SURGERY. [INTERJECTIONS]

23

24 **DR. EVA HOLMES:** SO THE NEXT TIME I WILL GO TO MARTIN LUTHER
25 KING! [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]



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1

2 **DR. EVA HOLMES:** AND LET ME-- PLEASE HOLD 'CAUSE MY TIME, YOU
3 KNOW, IS TICKING, TICKING, TICKING. MY GRANDSON, WHO IS SEVEN
4 YEARS OLD, WAS RUN OVER BY AN S.U.V. THE LADY RAN OVER HIM AND
5 STOPPED ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STREET AND SAID, "I HIT
6 SOMETHING," AND IT WAS MY GRANDSON. THEY BROUGHT HIM TO MARTIN
7 LUTHER KING AND THEY TESTED HIM. THANKS BE TO GOD THAT HE DID
8 NOT HAVE ANY BRAIN DAMAGE, BECAUSE THEN I'D HAVE TO DEAL WITH
9 L.A.U.S.D. IN TRYING TO EDUCATE A BRAIN-DAMAGED CHILD. I HEARD
10 ON THE RADIO THIS MORNING A YOUNG LADY TALKING ABOUT SHE HAD
11 TWINS AND WHATEVER AND SHE WENT TO MARTIN LUTHER KING AND THEY
12 SAVED HER CHILDREN. PEOPLE, LET ME TELL YOU AND, IN FACT, I
13 LIVE RIGHT DOWN THE STREET, I'M NOT FROM BEVERLY HILLS. THE
14 SIRENS WAKE ME UP EVERY NIGHT, TWO OR THREE TIMES A NIGHT,
15 TRYING TO GET TO MARTIN LUTHER KING. BUT I'M SAYING TO YOU,
16 THAT'S OKAY. JUST KEEP THE TRAUMA CENTER OPEN. I HAVE ANOTHER
17 GRANDSON THAT HAD A SERIOUS NOSEBLEED AND HIS MOTHER IS A
18 DOCTOR. SO SHE BROUGHT HIM TO MARTIN LUTHER KING AND WHATEVER
19 THEY DO, THEY SEALED IT UP AND HE HASN'T HAD ANY PROBLEMS
20 SINCE. AND MY LAST COMMENT IS, I ALMOST CUT MY FINGER OFF AND
21 MY-- WELL, WHATEVER-- TOOK ME TO MARTIN LUTHER-- WE DON'T EVEN
22 WANT TO GO THERE! [LAUGHTER]

23



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1 **DR. EVA HOLMES:** WE WON'T WANT TO GO THERE! TOOK ME TO MARTIN
2 LUTHER KING AND THEY SAVED MY FINGER, SO I'M NOT GOING TO SHOW
3 YOU WHICH FINGER IT WAS! [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

4

5 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ERIC PRIESTLEY... [CHEERS] [CHEERS AND
6 APPLAUSE] [GAVEL]

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ERIC PRIESTLEY, LARK GALLOWAY- GILLIAN,
9 BARBARA FRANKEL AND JASMINE CURRIE. OKAY.

10

11 **ERIC PRIESTLY:** MY NAME IS ERIC PRIESTLY.

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** JASMINE CURRIE. OKAY. ERIC? ERIC PRIESTLY,
14 LARK GALLOWAY-GILLIAN, BARBARA FRANKEL, AND JASMINE CURRIE.

15

16 **ERIC PRIESTLY:** OKAY. CAN I HAVE SOME ROOM, PLEASE?

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** SIR, CAN I HAVE YOUR NAME, PLEASE?

19

20 **ERIC PRIESTLY:** MY NAME IS ERIC PRIESTLEY.

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. YOUR TIME HAS STARTED, MR.
23 PRIESTLEY THEN I ASK LARK-- EXCUSE ME. I'LL START ALL OVER.

24



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1 **ERIC PRIESTLY:** WAIT A MINUTE, YOU'RE ON MY TIME NOW. YOU'RE ON
2 MY TIME.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** NO. WE'LL START IT OVER. OKAY. EASY. LARK
5 GALLOWAY-GILLIAN, I'M JUST ASKING PEOPLE TO LINE UP, BARBARA
6 FRANKEL AND JASMINE CURRIE. OKAY? YES, SIR, MR. PRIESTLEY, GO
7 AHEAD.

8

9 **ERIC PRIESTLY:** MY NAME IS ERIC PRIESTLEY. I GRADUATED WITH A
10 DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY IN 1972 FROM CAL-STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS
11 ANGELES. I DID A STATISTICAL STUDY TO EVALUATE THE EFFICACY OF
12 THE WRITING PROGRAM IN CAL STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHRIDGE 1985
13 THROUGH '87. THAT WAS TO EVALUATE THE EFFICACY OF THE CHICANO
14 STATE DEPARTMENT, AFRICA STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE ENGLISH
15 DEPARTMENT. MR. GARTHWAITE, I READ YOUR LETTER, YOUR
16 RECOMMENDATION. I FOUND IT TO BE FLAWED AND FULL OF FALLACIES,
17 GENERALIZATION AND NON SEQUITUR, EITHER/OR FALLACY, GENERAL--
18 JUST A MESS. IT WAS FULL OF FALLACIES. NOT ONLY THAT, IT WAS
19 FULL OF LIES. FURTHER, I READ YOUR STATISTICAL ANALYSIS.
20 UNFORTUNATELY, YOUR SAMPLE WAS TOO SMALL. MR. GARTHWAITE'S
21 SAMPLE ONLY COVERED FROM THE TIME, IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY,
22 CORRECT ME IF I AM WRONG, SIR, I THINK IT WAS FROM MARCH OF--
23 NO. IT WAS FROM OCTOBER OF 19-- OF 2003 TO MARCH 31ST OF 2004.
24 I DID A STUDY ON TRAUMA WHICH DISAGREED WITH YOUR STATISTICS.
25 NOW, WHAT I-- I DIDN'T COME HERE TO FIGHT WITH YOU GUYS. AS



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1 GLORIA AND THE REST OF YOU PEOPLE KNOW, I DON'T COME DOWN HERE
2 UNLESS IT'S SOMETHING SERIOUS AND THIS IS SERIOUS. WHAT I
3 PROPOSE IS THAT WE HAVE A REEVALUATION OF THAT ORIGINAL
4 RECOMMENDATION BY MR. GARTHWAITE. ALSO, I PROPOSE A SUSPENSION
5 OF THE MONIES TO BE PAID TO NAVIGANT AND I ALSO PROPOSE THAT A
6 COMMITTEE BE FORMED IN THE COMMUNITY WITH MAXINE WATERS AT THE
7 HELM TO EVALUATE A SUBSEQUENT RECOMMENDATION BY WHOEVER THEY
8 REPLACE MR. GARTHWAITE TO BE GIVEN TO THE BOARD. THAT'S IT.

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. LARK GALLOWAY-GILLIAN, BARBARA
13 FRANKEL, JASMINE CURRIE AND I BELIEVE IT'S PAMELA NARCISSE IF
14 I SAID THAT CORRECTLY FROM THE _____ COMMITTEE. OKAY.
15 LARK?

16

17 **LARK GALLOWAY-GILLIAN:** GOOD EVENING. I BROUGHT MY OWN NUMBERS,
18 WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, BECAUSE, WHEN WE HEARD THIS WAS
19 HAPPENING, WE SAT DOWN WITH DR. GARTHWAITE AND TRY AND FIGURE
20 OUT WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE. WHY ARE WE CLOSING A
21 CENTER IN A COMMUNITY IN WHICH WE KNOW, INTUITIVELY, IS BEING
22 UNDERSERVED? AND SO WE PUT TOGETHER SOME RESEARCH WITH DR.
23 GARTHWAITE AND SO I GOT TO CHALLENGE SOME OF YOUR REASONING
24 AND, I MEAN, IF THERE'S SOMETHING WE'RE MISSING, WE WANT TO
25 HEAR ABOUT THAT. THIS IS NOT THE FORUM TO DO IT, SO THERE



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1 SHOULD BE NO DECISION MADE IN THE ABSENCE OF SOME REAL DYNAMIC
2 PROOF TO US THAT YOU'VE GOT OUR BACK COVERED, BECAUSE WE DON'T
3 WANT TO BE LEFT OUT IN THE COLD. THIS COMMUNITY IS SERVED BY
4 THIS HOSPITAL. IF YOU JUST TAKE THE-- 200% OF THE POVERTY AND
5 YOU LOOK AT THE NUMBERS, THIS HOSPITAL, FAR ABOVE ANY OTHER OF
6 THE COUNTY HOSPITALS, SHOULD REMAIN OPEN. IT IS AN UNDERSERVED
7 COMMUNITY. WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE NUMBERS, WHAT'S NOT ON THERE
8 AND IT'S IN MY HANDOUT TO YOU AND YOU LOOK AT THE NUMBER OF
9 DOCTORS THAT ARE NOT IN THIS COMMUNITY, AGAIN, THIS COMMUNITY
10 IS UNDERSERVED. KING DREW, WE HAVE 21 DOCTORS PER 100,000
11 FOLKS. YOU GO OVER TO THE WEST SIDE WHERE HARBOR-U.C.L.A. IS,
12 AND WE ALL KNOW THAT THAT'S WHERE YOU WERE LEADING AT ONE
13 TIME, I DON'T KNOW WHAT CHANGED THE CORNER ON YOUR THINKING,
14 BUT 268 DOCTORS FOR 100,000 PEOPLE. THIS HOSPITAL-- IT'S NOT
15 JUST ABOUT THIS HOSPITAL. THIS HOSPITAL IS ABOUT YOUR
16 OBLIGATION UNDER SECTION 17,000 TO MAKE SURE THAT THE
17 RESOURCES ARE IN A COMMUNITY WHEN THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS NOT
18 HERE. AND, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO CALIFORNIA HOSPITALS, THEY
19 CHANGED THEIR MIND ONCE BEFORE, SO WHAT'S TO LEAD ME TO
20 BELIEVE THAT THEY WON'T CLOSE THOSE DOORS DOWN THE LINE AND WE
21 WILL BE LEFT OUT IN THE COLD, NO, WE WILL BE LEFT AT THE CURB
22 BLEEDING AND DYING? THIS HOSPITAL REPRESENTS THE PHYSICIANS IN
23 THIS COMMUNITY. YOU CAN'T TAKE IT AWAY. YOU CAN'T TAKE THE
24 TRAUMA CENTER, YOU CAN'T TAKE THE NICU, YOU CAN'T DIMINISH



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1 ANYTHING. IF YOU SHOULD BE DOING ANYTHING, YOU SHOULD BE
2 PUTTING RESOURCES INTO THIS HOSPITAL. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

3

4 **LARK GALLOWAY-GILLIAN:** AND SO-- AND WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE
5 QUALITY NUMBER, ZEV, YOU TALK ABOUT THIS HOSPITAL'S KILLING
6 PEOPLE. YEAH, IT'S KILLING PEOPLE BUT 98,000 PEOPLE DIE EACH
7 YEAR IN HOSPITALS ACROSS THIS TOWN. AND DON'T TELL ME, BECAUSE
8 I LOOK AT THE NUMBERS, THIS HOSPITAL AIN'T GREAT BUT IT'S NO
9 WORSE OFF THAN A LOT OF THE OTHERS. YOU LOOK AT THE DATA ON
10 YOUR-- ALL FIVE OF YOUR HOSPITALS AND YOU'LL SEE, NONE OF THEM
11 ARE DOING THAT GREAT. YOU'LL SEE THAT THE COUNTY'S HEALTHCARE
12 SYSTEM DOESN'T EVEN REPORT QUALITY LIKE MOST HOSPITALS ARE
13 SUPPOSED TO. WE WANT TO CALL YOU ON THE ROPE FOR THAT. IT IS
14 TIME THAT YOU GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER. IT'S NOT THIS HOSPITAL'S
15 JOB, IT'S THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND IT'S THE FOLKS
16 DOWNTOWN. PUT THE RESOURCES WHERE THEY BELONG.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. THANK YOU, LARK.

19

20 **LARK GALLOWAY-GILLIAN:** SO-- I GOT MY FOUR POINTS I WANT TO
21 MAKE, SO YOU-- BECAUSE THIS IS NOT GOING TO BE ONE OF THOSE
22 BUSH WE GO IN AND WE TEAR THINGS APART WHEN WE DON'T HAVE A
23 PLAN. WE HAVE A PLAN FOR YOU. FIRST OF ALL, YOU NEED TO HAVE A
24 COALITION UNDER CONGRESSWOMAN WATERS' LEADERSHIP THAT SAYS,
25 WHAT'S THE FUTURE OF THE HOSPITAL? NOT JUST THIS TRAUMA



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1 CENTER. I'M TALKING ABOUT THE WHOLE HOSPITAL. BECAUSE YOU
2 PULLED OUT OF-- YOU REDUCED THE SERVICE AREA FOR THE TRAUMA
3 CENTER A COUPLE MONTHS AGO. NOW YOU'RE CLOSING IT. SO WE WANT
4 TO TALK ABOUT THE WHOLE HOSPITAL, NOT JUST THE TRAUMA CENTER.
5 SECONDLY, WE WANT TO SEE RESOURCES PUT IN HERE. WE WANT
6 NURSES. WHATEVER IT TAKES, KATHY OCHOA, IF IT'S 10%, 25% TO
7 GET NURSES INTO THIS HOSPITAL, THAT'S WHAT YOU NEED TO DO,
8 BECAUSE THIS COMMUNITY DESERVES THAT. WE SHOULD NOT GET
9 ANYTHING LESS. WE ALSO WANT YOU TO COME UP WITH A STRATEGY FOR
10 BRINGING DOCTORS BACK, BECAUSE 96 DOCTORS SERVING A HUNDRED
11 THOUSAND PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY IS NOT ADEQUATE AND YOU HAVE
12 NOT DONE YOUR JOB IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT. AND,
13 FINALLY, IT'S TIME YOU GUYS STARTED TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT
14 WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW, NOT WITH JUST WITH THIS HOSPITAL BUT ALL
15 THE HOSPITALS. WE WANT TO SEE FINANCIAL DATA AND WE WANT TO
16 SEE QUALITY DATA. WE WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT THE COUNTY'S
17 HEALTHCARE SYSTEM. THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. BARBARA FRANKEL, JASMINE CURRIE,
20 PAMELA NARCISO, AND GARCIA STARLIGHT. OKAY. BARBARA?

21

22 **BARBARA FRANKEL:** THANK YOU, ESTEEMED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF
23 SUPERVISORS, FOR NOTICING AND CONDUCTING THIS HEARING. MY NAME
24 IS BARBARA FRANKEL, I'M AN ATTORNEY WITH THE HEALTH CONSUMER
25 CENTER AT NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES. WE OPERATE A COUNTYWIDE



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1 HEALTHCARE RIGHTS OMBUDS PROGRAM FOR LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS OF
2 THE COUNTY AND I AM HERE TODAY ON BEHALF OF OUR CLIENTS. THE
3 CRISIS THAT WE ARE EXPERIENCING AT KING DREW DID NOT APPEAR
4 OVERNIGHT. KING DREW HAS BEEN A NEGLECTED INSTITUTION THAT
5 HAS, FOR TOO LONG, NOT BEEN HELD ACCOUNTABLE TO THE COMMUNITY
6 FOR DEFICIENT SERVICE. THE CULTURE OF ACCOUNTABILITY MUST
7 START AND MUST START HERE TODAY WITH THE L.A. COUNTY BOARD OF
8 SUPERVISORS. TODAY'S HEARING CAN SET THE STANDARD BY PROVIDING
9 COMPLETE INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC AND BY ALLOWING
10 STAKEHOLDERS AND EXPERTS TO BE INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING
11 PROPOSALS AND REMEDIAL STEPS THAT AFFECT THE SCOPE AND LEVEL
12 OF SERVICES AT KING DREW. THE HEALTH CONSUMERS CENTER URGES
13 THIS BOARD TO AVOID FRAMING TODAY'S ISSUE AS A DICHOTOMY,
14 EITHER THE COMMUNITY GETS A TRAUMA UNIT OR THE COMMUNITY HAS A
15 QUALITY HOSPITAL. THE COMMUNITY NEEDS AND DESERVES BOTH. [
16 APPLAUSE]

17

18 **BARBARA FRANKEL:** THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE MUST BE TO DETERMINE
19 THE BEST PLAN TO ASSURE THAT THE COMMUNITY WILL HAVE BOTH AS
20 VIABLE COMMUNITY RESOURCES. THE COUNTY HAS WISELY HIRED AN
21 OUTSIDE MANAGEMENT TEAM, NAVIGANT, TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT
22 AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. AS AN
23 ASIDE, HOWEVER, THE BEILENSON STATUTE REQUIRED A COMMUNITY
24 HEARING FOR THE TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT TO THIS OUTSIDE
25 MANAGEMENT COMPANY. HOWEVER, WITHOUT WAIVING THIS COMMUNITY'S



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1 RIGHT TO HAVE THAT HEARING, BEFORE THIS BOARD DECIDES ON THE
2 VERY IMPORTANT ISSUE OF CLOSING THE KING DREW TRAUMA UNIT, WE
3 URGE THE BOARD, AGAIN, TO CONSIDER ALLOWING NAVIGANT OR A
4 SIMILAR OUTSIDE PANEL OF EXPERTS TO INVESTIGATE AND REPORT
5 BACK TO THE BOARD ON WHAT STEPS MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO IMPROVE
6 AND PRESERVE MAXIMUM SERVICES AT KING DREW, INCLUDING WHETHER
7 CLOSING THE TRAUMA UNITS IS AN APPROPRIATE STEP TO PRESERVE
8 THE HOSPITAL. I WILL SUBMIT THE REST OF MY TESTIMONY FOR THE
9 BOARD TO CONSIDER.

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT. JASMINE AND THEN
12 PAMELA. GARCIA STARLIGHT, ZEETTA WILLIAMS AND THOMAS HENRY, IF
13 YOU'D GET IN LINE, PLEASE AND DR. MARIE STEP. OKAY, JASMINE?

14

15 **JASMINE CURRIE'S MOM:** YES. I HAD TO TAKE JASMINE HOME BECAUSE
16 SHE HAD TO GO AND DO HER HOMEWORK. I AM JASMINE CURRIE'S MOM.
17 I WAS SICK AT ONE TIME AND I HAD TO GO TO MARTIN LUTHER KING
18 HOSPITAL SOME YEARS AGO AND THEY SAVED MY LIFE. I AM ALSO HERE
19 BECAUSE YOU ARE SITTING IN THE AUDITORIUM OF ALL YOUR FUTURE
20 DOCTORS AND YOU NEED TO KNOW WHERE YOU ARE BEING PLACED AT FOR
21 THIS PARTICULAR REASON. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I KNOW FOR A
22 FACT THAT WE HAD \$1.4 BILLION LEFT OVER FROM LAST YEAR
23 ACCOUNTS-- ACCORDING TO YOUR ACCOUNTS. WE ALSO HAD \$400
24 MILLION LEFT IN RESERVE FOR THE TOBACCO COMPANY THAT WE HAD
25 SOME MONEY FOR. MY PROBLEM IS, YOU CAN SEND ALL THIS MONEY



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1 OVERSEAS AND YOU CANNOT SAVE THIS HOSPITAL OUT HERE. WE HAVE A
2 LOT OF KIDS WHO NEED THIS PLACE BECAUSE THEY TRAIN OVER THERE.
3 THESE ARE OUR KIDS' LIVES THAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, TAKING
4 AWAY OUR FUTURE. WE ALSO NEED TO LET YOU KNOW THAT WE ARE
5 AWARE OF THE MONIES THAT ARE BEING PAID TO YOUR-- ON YOUR
6 BEHALF FIRST, WHEN YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE LOOKING OUT FOR OUR
7 BEHALF, YOU ARE FILLING YOUR POCKETS UP FIRST. ME, MYSELF AND
8 THE REST OF THIS CROWD IN HERE, WE ALL WANT YOU OUT. IF YOU
9 CANNOT SUPPORT US AND WE PUT YOU IN OFFICE, WE WILL DO
10 EVERYTHING THAT'S NECESSARY TO GET YOU OUT BECAUSE I AM TIRED
11 OF EVERY TIME WE COME DOWN HERE TO MARTIN LUTHER KING AND HAVE
12 TO PROTEST AGAINST SOMETHING WE FOUGHT TO GET IN THIS
13 NEIGHBORHOOD AND YOU WANT TO TAKE IT OUT! WE HAVE DIED OVER
14 HERE TRYING TO GET THINGS FOR OUR PEOPLE! I AM SO SICK OF YOU
15 GUYS AND, LIKE THAT LADY SAID THAT WAS BEFORE US, FOLLOW THE
16 MONEY! THE FIRST ONE GOT PAID, LIKE, OOPS, WE JUST FOUND \$300
17 MILLION. THE FIRST ONE GOT THE MONEY WAS YOU!

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

20

21 **JASMINE CURRIE'S MOM:** I AM SO SICK OF YOU GUYS LYING TO US
22 ABOUT SOME REAL PETTY STUFF! CHANGE IT! FIX IT AND DO WHAT IS
23 NECESSARY BUT YOU SAVE THAT HOSPITAL! BECAUSE MY KIDS NEED IT!

24



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1 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ZEETTA WILLIAMS, THOMAS HENRY, ERNIE SMITH,
2 DR. EDWARD SCOTT.

3

4 **ZEETTA WILLIAMS:** GOOD EVENING.

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IDENTIFY YOURSELF, PLEASE.

7

8 **ZEETTA WILLIAMS:** MY NAME IS ZEETTA WILLIAMS AND GOOD EVENING
9 TO MY PEOPLE, MY BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE. YOU SAY, "WHO ARE WE?" WE
10 ARE THE VOICE. "WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE?" OH, WE ARE THE CURE.
11 THEY WANTED US TO BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE MADE THEIR DECISION,
12 BUT WE WANT YOU TO KNOW-- TO RECONSIDER YOUR ACTIONS BECAUSE
13 WE, THE PEOPLE, IS READY TO REACT. KING DREW IS OUR HEART, SO
14 YOU'RE TRYING TO STOP OUR BEAT, BUT WE ARE GOD'S PEOPLE AND
15 I'M A BIRD THAT'S HERE TO TELL YOU, OUR HEARTBEATS WILL GET
16 LOUDER. YOU WANT US TO LAY DOWN AND DIE LIKE THE DEAD? BUT
17 GUESS WHAT? YOU HAVE JUST AWAKENED THE SLEEP.

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** TINA CHRISTOPOLUS, JOHN WEATHERS, CARL
20 POPULUS, DOROTHY ROCHELLE AND GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL. IS TINA
21 HERE? IS TINA HERE? OKAY. JOHN WEATHERS. CARL POPULUS. DOROTHY
22 ROCHELLE AND GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL.

23

24 **ERNIE SMITH:** CHAIRMAN KNABE, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, MY NAME IS
25 ERNIE SMITH, I AM OMBUDSMAN FOR THE BLACK COMMUNITY HEALTH



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1 TASK FORCE. MANY OF YOU HAVE HEARD THE ADAGE THAT POWER
2 CORRUPTS AND ABSOLUTELY POWER CORRUPTS ABSOLUTE. I WANT TO
3 SPEAK TO THAT BECAUSE WE HAVE A SITUATION HERE WHERE THE BOARD
4 OF SUPERVISORS HAS, IN SECRET, MADE A DECISION TO CLOSE THE
5 TRAUMA CENTER, WHICH WAS A CORRUPT ACT, ACCORDING TO DISTRICT
6 ATTORNEY STEVE COOLEY. THAT CORRUPT ACT LED TO A VIOLATION OF
7 THE BROWN ACT, WHICH WAS CORRUPT AND, THEREFORE, A VIOLATION
8 OF THE BEILENSEN ACT, WHICH YOU NOW HOLD A SHAM FARCE HEARING
9 THAT YOU CLAIM YOU'RE HOLDING WHEN YOUR DECISION HAS ALREADY
10 BEEN MADE! NOW, YOU POSTURE TODAY THAT, "WE HAVEN'T REALLY
11 MADE A DECISION. IN FACT, WE WON'T MAKE A DECISION UNTIL
12 PERHAPS NEXT TUESDAY, NOT EVEN TOMORROW," BUT WE UNDERSTAND
13 WHAT'S GOING ON, BECAUSE WE HEARD GARTHWAITE, A QUACK, QUACK
14 DOCTOR, WHO DOESN'T KNOW MEDICINE, HASN'T PRACTICED MEDICINE,
15 CLAIMS TO BE AN ADMINISTRATOR AND HASN'T BEEN AN EFFECTIVE
16 ADMINISTRATOR! I CHALLENGED HIM IN ONE OF THE FIRST PLANNING
17 MEETINGS THAT HE HELD WHEN HE PROPOSED WHAT HE WAS GOING TO DO
18 ABOUT THE \$800 MILLION SHORTFALL IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
19 AND HE INDICATED THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING IS 25% LESS EFFICIENT
20 THAN ALL THE HOSPITALS IN THIS SYSTEM BUT WE DISCOVERED, FROM
21 THE SAME DATA, THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS THE MOST PROFITABLE
22 HOSPITAL IN THE NATION! [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]
23
24 **ERNIE SMITH:** AND WE CHALLENGED HIM ON THAT SAME BASE. MY TIME
25 IS UP BUT I'LL BE BACK. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]



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1

2 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** TINA CHRISTOPOLUS FOLLOWED BY JOHN WEATHERS
3 THEN CARL POPULUS, DOROTHY ROCHELLE AND GENEVIEVE.

4

5 **TINA CHRISTOPOLUS:** THANK YOU, CHAIRMAN KNABE. MY NAME IS TINA
6 CHRISTOPOLUS AND I'M WITH COALITION FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH. WE,
7 TOO, OPPOSE THE CLOSING OF THE TRAUMA CENTER AT KING DREW AND
8 BELIEVE IT IS SIMPLY UNNECESSARY. SUCH CLOSURE WILL COMPROMISE
9 THE COUNTY AND WILL FURTHER COMPROMISE THE HOSPITAL ITSELF,
10 LEADING TO DIMINISHED CAPACITY, RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES.
11 LOS ANGELES' COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DATA REVEALED THAT THE
12 GREATEST DISEASE BURDEN FOR BOTH CHILDREN AND ADULTS IN THE
13 COMMUNITIES SURROUNDING THE KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER IS
14 ACCIDENT AND INJURY. THESE STATISTICS EXCEED ACCIDENT AND
15 INJURY RATES FOR OUR COUNTY, STATE AND EVEN THE NATION. THE
16 HOSPITAL, WITH ITS TRAUMA CENTER, SERVES THE NEEDS OF THE
17 COMMUNITY AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE COUNTY'S OVERALL PREPAREDNESS
18 FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES. WE BELIEVE THAT THE DIAGNOSIS
19 OF THE PROBLEMS AT THE KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER, AS PRESENTED
20 BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES,
21 IS SIMPLY DEFECTIVE. OUR CHALLENGE IS NOT THE CLOSING OF THE
22 TRAUMA PROGRAM, BUT THE STRENGTHENING OF THE CENTER AND ITS
23 NEEDED TRAUMA PROGRAM AND BUILDING ON THE SUCCESSES THAT HAVE
24 ALREADY BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. FURTHER, THE PROPOSAL TO
25 RESTRUCTURE AND REINVEST SAVINGS FROM THIS EFFORT AT THE



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1 INSTITUTION LACKS TRUST, CREDIBILITY AND THE PRECEDENCE OF A
2 SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME. THE FAILURE OF THE KING DREW MEDICAL
3 CENTER TO PERFORM OPTIMALLY IS DIRECTLY TIED TO ISSUES OF
4 GOVERNANCE, FUNDING, AND MANAGEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES,
5 AS ELOQUENTLY EXPRESSED BY MANY PREVIOUS PEOPLE GIVING
6 TESTIMONY. THESE ISSUES LIE AT THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEMS
7 REPORTED IN THE DELIVERY OF MEDICAL CARE AND TRAINING OF
8 FUTURE HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS. THESE ISSUES HAVE RESTRICTED THE
9 GROWTH OF KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER AT A TIME WHEN THE
10 SURROUNDING POPULATION AND DISEASE BURDEN ARE GROWING AT AN
11 ACCELERATED PACE AND HAVE LIMITED THE HOSPITAL'S ABILITY TO
12 BENEFIT FROM PARTICIPATION IN FOUNDATIONS AND DONOR
13 INITIATIVES AND TO RESPOND APPROPRIATELY IN A MANAGED CARE
14 ENVIRONMENT. TOGETHER, THESE FACTORS NEGATIVELY AFFECT
15 PATIENT'S ACCESS TO CARE AND THE GENERATION OF HOSPITAL
16 REVENUE. REMEDYING THESE ROOT PROBLEMS IS IMPERATIVE IF THE
17 HOSPITAL IS TO SURVIVE AND THRIVE. FOR EXAMPLE, MORE SUPPORT
18 AND COMPENSATION WILL FACILITATE NEEDED INCREASES IN STAFFING
19 FOR THE HOSPITAL, RESTORATION OF THE RESIDENCY PROGRAMS AND
20 FOCUS ON STAFF STABILITY, QUALIFICATION AND TRAINING. CLOSURE
21 OF THE TRAUMA CENTER IS MERELY TREATING A SYMPTOM OF THESE
22 UNDERLYING SYSTEMIC PROBLEMS OF GOVERNANCE, FUNDING AND
23 MANAGEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. UNTIL WE CAN BE ASSURED
24 THAT THESE SYSTEMIC PROBLEMS ARE BEING ADDRESSED AND THAT THE
25 COMMUNITIES SERVED BY THE TRAUMA CENTER WILL BE ADEQUATELY



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1 SERVED VIA ALTERNATE MEANS UPON ITS CLOSURE, WE OPPOSE AND
2 CANNOT SUPPORT CLOSURE. TO DATE, WE HAVE NOT SEEN EVIDENCE
3 THAT THE SYSTEMIC PROBLEMS ARE RESPONSIBLY ADDRESSED OR THAT
4 ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS ARE BEING VIGOROUSLY PURSUED...

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. CAN YOU WRAP IT UP, PLEASE? YOUR TIME
7 IS UP.

8

9 **TINA CHRISTOPOLUS:** I WILL SUBMIT THE REMAINDER OF MY WRITTEN
10 TESTIMONY.

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. FOR ALL THOSE, THE REMAINDER, IF YOU
13 DO HAVE WRITTEN TESTIMONY, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR WRITTEN
14 TESTIMONY FOR THE RECORD. THANK YOU. JOHN WEATHERS, CARL
15 POPULUS, DOROTHY ROCHELLE, GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL AND DR. EDWARD
16 ALEXANDER. GO AHEAD. JUST IDENTIFY YOURSELF.

17

18 **DR. EDWARD E. SCOTT:** OH MY LORD, LORD, LORD, LORD MM HM. I DO
19 THAT TO GET YOUR ATTENTION. I'M DR. EDWARD E. SCOTT, I'M THE
20 FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BLACK
21 FOUNDATION CARE GROUP INTERNATIONAL, A COMMUNITY-BASED
22 ORGANIZATION FOUNDED HERE IN LOS ANGELES IN 1993. I CAME HERE
23 30 YEARS AGO AS A CONSULTANT AND WE WROTE A PROPOSAL TO
24 ESTABLISH A MEDICAL SCHOOL HERE AT DREW. IF THEY HAD FOLLOWED
25 THAT, YOU WOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE WITH THIS ISSUE BECAUSE YOU'D



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1 HAVE A FOUR-YEAR MEDICAL SCHOOL IN PLACE THAT IS IN A POSITION
2 TO BRING ALL THE FUNDS AND ALL THAT YOU NEED AND NOT HAVE TO
3 RELY ON THE COUNTY FOR THE _____. THE ADMINISTRATION
4 HAS BEEN WEAK OVER 30 YEARS BUT I'M HERE TO SAY THAT I HAVE
5 THE SOLUTION. I HAVE AN ASSOCIATE AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY WHO IS
6 READY TO FLY OUT HERE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE AND RELIEVE YOU OF
7 YOUR PROBLEM. HE WILL ESTABLISH A MEDICAL SCHOOL. HE'S GOT
8 ACCESS TO 400 STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS. HE'S THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
9 BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, THE DEPARTMENT OF
10 INTEGRATED MEDICINE AND HE'S SAYING THIS REGION IS RIPE FOR
11 THAT PROGRAM. I SUBMIT TO EVERYONE THAT I WILL USE ALL MY
12 RESOURCES TO SAVE THIS INSTITUTION. I WAS ASKED IN 1974 AND
13 I'M ONE OF THE PROPOSAL WRITERS, YOU DID NOT ESTABLISH THE
14 FOUR-YEAR MEDICAL SCHOOL HERE TO TRAIN INDIVIDUALS FROM THIS
15 REGION. IF YOU HAD DONE THAT, YOU'D HAVE A FOUR-YEAR MEDICAL
16 SCHOOL LIKE U.S.C. AND U.C.L.A. HAVE AND YOU WOULD NOT BE
17 DEALING WITH THESE ISSUES BECAUSE YOU'D HAVE A VIABLE MEDICAL
18 TRAINING SCHOOL THAT CAN PICK UP RIGHT AFTER YOUR MAGNATE
19 SCHOOL AND HAVE YOUR FOUR YEAR TRAINING PROGRAM IN PLACE AND
20 THEN YOU HAVE YOUR HOSPITAL THERE. I SUBMIT TO YOU ALL AND I'M
21 HERE, MY ASSOCIATE, DR. DAVID FELTON, WHO IS THE--OVER THE
22 MEDICAL SCHOOL IN RUTGERS, HE'S ALREADY CALLED ME. HE SAID, "I
23 GOT YOUR SOLUTION, ED, JUST TELL ME WHEN AND I'LL COME AND
24 TALK TO WHOEVER." AND IT'S RUTGERS UNIVERSITY IN NEWARK, NEW
25 JERSEY. IF YOU KNOW THE NEWARK AREA, IT'S A UNDERSERVED



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1 POPULATION. HE'S SAYING HE CAN MAKE IT FINANCIALLY FISCAL IN
2 LESS THAN SIX MONTHS.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

5

6 **DR. EDWARD E. SCOTT:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [APPLAUSE]

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YES, SIR. I'D LIKE TO ASK DR. JOHN CLAUDE
9 HENRY TO JOIN US, GET IN LINE.

10

11 **CARL POPULUS:** GOOD EVENING AND THANKS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY. MY
12 NAME IS CARL POPULUS, ALSO KNOWN AS C.P. IN THE 'HOOD SO DON'T
13 CALL ME POPULUS 'CAUSE YOU WON'T FIND ME IN THE 'HOOD IF YOU
14 COME AROUND SAYING THAT. BUT I WOULD LIKE TO SAY, FIRST OF
15 ALL, I'M ONE OF THE PEOPLE THAT COUNTER ACT ATTACKS AGAINST
16 OUR CONGRESS PEOPLE, LIKE SISTER-- MAXINE WATERS,
17 CONGRESSWOMAN MAXINE WATERS, WHEN THE L.A. TIMES AND THE NEWS
18 SAY THAT YOU'RE JUST IN THE WAY AND WE HAVE PEOPLE CALLING AND
19 BASHING SO I'LL BE HERE. AND I AIN'T COMING TO BASH ANYBODY. I
20 WANT TO SAY, BEFORE I GO ANY FURTHER, THANK YOU, ANTONOVICH,
21 FOR ACKNOWLEDGING MY LETTER ABOUT THE GROUND SUPPORT SYSTEM
22 AND THE FUNDING WE'RE TALKING ABOUT VOLUNTEERING IN THE HOOD.
23 I SAY ABOUT THE GROUND SUPPORT SYSTEM AND THE UNINSURED AND
24 THE UNDERINSURED, I'M ONE OF THE UNINSURED PEOPLE, I'M ONE OF
25 THE KIDS THAT WAS LEFT BEHIND. THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WRITE A



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1 NOTE TODAY BECAUSE MY ENGLISH IS VERY LIMITED SUFFICIENTLY,
2 YOU KNOW, SO I SAY THAT WE HAVE MANY TESTIMONIES HERE FOR
3 PEOPLE. AND I HATE TO ROLL UP IN THIS HOSPITAL AND NOT SEE A
4 DOCTOR. I HAD A NEPHEW TO DIE AT THIS HOSPITAL A FEW YEARS AGO
5 WHEN I WAS COMPLIMENTING ONE OF THE DOCTORS THAT WORKS HERE
6 ABOUT SOME WORK WE HAD DONE AND YET HE STILL, I'D RATHER FOR
7 HIM TO HAVE DIED LIKE THAT RATHER THAN THE HOSPITAL TRAUMA
8 CENTER TO BE CLOSED. AND WE'RE NOT EVEN GOING TO TALK ABOUT
9 OUR URGENT CARE AND STUFF THAT'S SEEING 45 AND 50,000 PATIENTS
10 BECAUSE IT'S NOT JUST THIS TRAUMA CENTER HERE NOW. WE HAVE
11 PEOPLE WALKING IN URGENT CARE WITH GUNSHOT WOUNDS. WE HAVE
12 PEOPLE WALKING IN URGENT CARE WITH THEIR BRAINS BLOWED OUT
13 TRYING TO GET HERE. SO I ASK YOU GUYS TO CONSIDER US THE
14 GROUND SUPPORT SYSTEM AND CONSIDER THE TESTIMONY YOU HEARD
15 HERE TODAY AND THINK ABOUT THE DELAY IN THE CLOSURE OF THIS
16 BECAUSE IT IS REALLY SERIOUS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [APPLAUSE
17]

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. ASK RICO SMITH TO JOIN US, WOULD
20 YOU GET IN LINE, PLEASE, RICO SMITH.

21

22 **DOROTHY ROCHELLE:** YES. MY NAME IS DOROTHY ROCHELLE, AND I'M
23 ONE OF THE PARENTS WHO WORKED VERY HARD TO GET THIS SCHOOL
24 BUILT. I WANT ALL THE PEOPLE TO LOOK DOWN UNDER YOUR FEET AND
25 LOOK IN THE AISLES. I WAS THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STEERING



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1 COMMITTEE. I PUT ON MY HARD HAT AND CAME OVER HERE DAILY TO
2 SEE WHAT WAS GOING ON. THERE WAS ONLY CARPET IN THE AISLES AND
3 YOU WOULD HAVE YOUR FEET ON CEMENT. HELLO? OKAY? YOU SEE
4 WHAT'S GOING ON NOW? YOU GOT CARPET UNDER YOUR FEET AND WE DID
5 IT WITH COMMUNITY SUPPORT. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE BOARD OF
6 SUPERVISORS THOUGHT THAT THEY COULD GET AWAY WITH IT. I DON'T
7 BELIEVE IT! I DO NOT-- YVONNE COULD HAVE TOLD 'EM. SHE COULD
8 HAVE TOLD 'EM, IF YOU GO OUT THERE, THE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO
9 KILL YOU. [APPLAUSE]

10

11 **DOROTHY ROCHELLE:** I MEAN, HOW COULD YOU DO IT? AND DR.
12 GARTHWAITE, YOU NEED TO BE OUTSOURCED TO PAKISTAN. [
13 INTERJECTIONS]

14

15 **DOROTHY ROCHELLE:** GO BACK WHERE YOU CAME. OKAY? THIS CENTER,
16 THIS SCHOOL, YOU DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS, OUR KIDS
17 GO OVER THERE. IT'S IN THEIR CURRICULUM. YOU DIDN'T GIVE IT A
18 THOUGHT. IF YOU'RE GOING TO DO IT, YOU SHOULD HAVE GIVEN US A
19 YEAR TO PLAN FOR ANOTHER PLACE TO SEND OUR STUDENTS. WHAT
20 ABOUT THE DOCTORS FROM DREW? YOU SHOULD HAVE GIVEN THEM TWO
21 YEARS TO FIND SOMEWHERE ELSE. I CANNOT BELIEVE YOU DID THIS
22 STUPID THING. I CANNOT BELIEVE IT! OVER 200,000 CASES OF
23 MALPRACTICE AND BAD MEDICINE THAT KILLS PEOPLE HAPPENS EVERY
24 YEAR IN AMERICA. 200,000 CASES. OUR EVIDENCE IS THERE. BUT I
25 WANT YOU TO LIST OUT TO ME A LIST OF ALL THE THINGS YOU HAVE



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1 AGAINST MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL. I WANT YOU TO LIST FOR
2 THE COMMUNITY, A LIST. I WORKED AT ONE OF THE HOSPITALS-- I'M
3 A R.N. I WORKED AT ONE OF THE HOSPITALS THAT YOU'RE GOING TO
4 SEND PEOPLE TO NOW. ONE DAY, THEY TOOK OUT THE WRONG KIDNEY.
5 AND YOU'RE GOING TO SEND MY PEOPLE OUT THERE?! THERE'S NOT A
6 HOSPITAL IN AMERICA THAT DOESN'T HAVE PROBLEMS, THAT DO BAD
7 THINGS. BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE HUMAN. DOCTORS ARE HUMAN. NURSES
8 ARE HUMAN. AND FOR THESE THINGS THAT I'VE SEEN IN L.A. TIMES
9 EVERY DAY, I SAID, THERE MUST BE A GAME GOING ON, AND I CALLED
10 ALL THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS...

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** DOROTHY, COULD YOU WRAP IT UP, PLEASE?

13

14 **DOROTHY ROCHELLE:** ...ONLY MOLINA WROTE ME A LETTER. NOBODY
15 ELSE WROTE ME A LETTER. FINALLY, I CLICKED. I SAID, EVERY
16 WEEK, THERE'S SOMETHING IN THERE ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER KING.
17 THEY ARE TRYING TO CLOSE THAT HOSPITAL. ABOUT SIX MONTHS
18 BEFORE THEN, I WAS READING THE L.A. TIMES. IT SAID, "WE ARE
19 GOING TO CLOSE HARBOR GENERAL."

20

21 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY.

22

23 **DOROTHY ROCHELLE:** WHY DIDN'T YOU CLOSE HARBOR GENERAL? THAT'S
24 WHAT YOU SAID. YEAH, BUT THEY'RE PUTTING THE PRESSURE ON YOU.
25 THEY HAVE ENOUGH PRESSURE.



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1

2 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

3

4 **DOROTHY ROCHELLE:** AND WE DIDN'T. BUT WE GOT THE PRESSURE NOW.
5 IT'S GOING TO BE BIGGER AND BETTER.

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT. GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL,
8 DR. ALEXANDER, DR. JEAN CLAUDE HENRY, CHIEF RICO SMITH AND
9 ALAN CLAYTON WILL BE AFTER THE _____.

10

11 **GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL:** YES. MY NAME IS GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL. I'M A
12 REGISTERED NURSE, I'M AN EXPERT IN HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT, I HAVE
13 A PH.D. IN THAT FIELD. PERSONALLY, I'M NOT GOING TO BE
14 POLITICALLY CORRECT TODAY. I DON'T THINK NOBODY IS HONORABLE
15 BEHIND THAT TABLE. WE ARE STILL HAVE RECEIVED NONE OF THE
16 DOCUMENTATION ON WHICH YOU MADE YOUR DECISION. THIS MEETING
17 TODAY IS A SHAM. MOLINA, SUPERVISOR MOLINA, COUPLE OF WEEKS
18 AGO SAID, "I TOOK MY DECISION SOLELY, UNIQUELY, ON WHAT DR.
19 GARTHWAITE AND FRED LEAF TOLD ME." WE STILL HAVE NOT SEEN
20 THOSE DOCUMENTS. WHEN SOMEBODY IS NOT PERFORMING, YOU FIRE
21 THEM, IN THE REAL WORLD, IN THE BUSINESS WORLD. THOSE TWO
22 INDIVIDUALS HERE, FRED LEAF AND GARTHWAITE, WOULD BE LONG TIME
23 AGO GONE. WE HAVE SPENT-- WE HAD THE CAMDEN GROUP HERE, WE
24 SPEND CLOSE TO \$1 MILLION. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ONE SINGLE



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1 REPORT. THIS IS NOT YOUR MONEY! THIS IS THE PEOPLE'S MONEY! [
2 CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

3

4 **GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL:** AND BECAUSE OF IT, BY LAW AND THE PEOPLE
5 HAVE SPOKEN, PROPOSITION 59 PASSED 73% IN CALIFORNIA TWO WEEKS
6 AGO-- A WEEK AGO OR TWO AGO. YOU ARE MANDATED TO GIVE US THOSE
7 DOCUMENTS. THEY BELONG TO THE PUBLIC. AND YOU CANNOT TAKE A
8 DECISION AND I DARE YOU TO DO THAT WITHOUT US GIVEN THE
9 DOCUMENTS. NOW YOU HAVE NAVIGANT, YOU HAVE NAVIGANT, A COMPANY
10 WHO IS SUPPOSED TO BE SO EFFICIENT. THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN IN
11 THE HOSPITAL FOR OVER A WEEK. NOT A SINGLE R.N. FROM THIS TEAM
12 HAS BEEN THERE. THE MAIN PROBLEM AT KING DREW IS THE NURSING
13 PROBLEM. WE ARE SPENDING \$30 MILLION AND THAT'S JUST, YOU
14 KNOW, THE ROUGH NUMBER, BECAUSE, IF YOU READ THE FINE PRINT,
15 THEY CAN CHARGE 25% OVER THAT FOR EXPENSES. IN MY BOOKS SINCE,
16 YOU KNOW, I'M FRENCH, I LEARNED TO COUNT EARLY ON, YOU KNOW?
17 3.3 MILLION EXTRA ON EXPENSES. THAT MAKE IT 16 MILLION...

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** GENEVIEVE, CAN YOU WRAP IT UP, PLEASE.

20

21 **GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL:** WELL, ALL WE WANT FROM YOU BEFORE YOU TAKE
22 ANY DECISION, WE WANT THE DOCUMENTS. WE HAVE THE RIGHT, WE
23 HAVE PAID FOR IT AND WE ARE GOING TO DEMAND IT AND WE ARE NOT
24 GOING TO TAKE ANY VOTE ON ANYTHING BECAUSE YOU WILL HAVE TO
25 TURN IT OFF. THE PEOPLE ARE FED UP.



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1

2 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, GENEVIEVE.

3

4 **GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL:** AND WE KNOW WE'RE GOING TO RECALL YOU. WE
5 HAVE ALREADY DONE THE LIST. THAT'S FINE. YOU KNOW, GRAY DAVIS
6 DID NOT LISTEN TO US. WE GOT HIM RECALLED. WE CAN DO THE SAME
7 THING TO ALL OF YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** DR. EDWARD ALEXANDER, DR. HENRY, CHIEF RICO
10 SMITH, ALAN CLAYTON AND ADRIAN DOVE.

11

12 **SUP. BURKE:** ADRIAN DOVE SPOKE ALREADY.

13

14 **DR. EDWARD ALEXANDER:** I'M DR. ALEXANDER. THIS YOUNG GENTLEMAN
15 HAS TO GO HOME AND GET HIS HOMEWORK DONE. AND, IN SUPPORT OF
16 ALL OF OUR TEACHERS HERE, I'M GOING TO LET HIM DO THAT IF I
17 CAN-- IF THE SUPERVISORS WILL ALLOW ME TO DO THAT.

18

19 **CHUMA OBIOR:** MY NAME IS CHUMA OBIOR. I'M A STUDENT HERE AT
20 KAYVIEW HEART MEDICAL MAGNATE HIGH SCHOOL. I'M ELEVENTH GRADE
21 AND ALSO IN THE HOSPITAL PROGRAM. I'M HERE THIS EVENING ON
22 BEHALF OF THE STUDENTS AT KING DREW JUST TO LET YOU KNOW HOW
23 CLOSE THIS COMMUNITY IS AND THE POSSIBLE CLOSING OF THE
24 HOSPITAL AFFECTS NOT ONLY YOU ALL BUT THE STUDENTS HERE AT THE
25 SCHOOL, ALSO. THIS HOSPITAL AND THE TRAUMA UNITS GIVES THE



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1 STUDENTS A CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE HOW IT IS TO BE A PHYSICIAN'S
2 ASSISTANT. MANY STUDENTS WOULD LOVE TO BE IN THE HOSPITAL
3 PROGRAM AS WELL AS AT OUR SCHOOL BUT UNFORTUNATELY THERE'S A
4 LIMITED AMOUNT OF PLACES. WHEN EVERYBODY AT THE SCHOOL NEEDS
5 MEDICAL ATTENTION, WHAT DO YOU THINK THAT IT IS BEST-- IS IN
6 THE BEST INTERESTS TO TAKE THEM ACROSS THE STREET? LAST YEAR,
7 A FRESHMAN, SHE NEEDED MEDICAL ATTENTION BUT SHE WAS TAKEN TO
8 SAINT FRANCIS MEDICAL CENTER IN INGLEWOOD. BUT WHEN I WAS IN
9 NINTH GRADE, I HAD TO BE TRANSPORTED AND TREATED, SO THEY TOOK
10 ME ACROSS THE STREET TO THE HOSPITAL AND THEN I PROBABLY WOULD
11 NOT BE HERE IF I DIDN'T BECAUSE I HAD A VERY SEVERE ASTHMA
12 ATTACK. WHEN I WAS AT THE HOSPITAL, I WAS SURPRISED OF THE WAY
13 I WAS TREATED BECAUSE PEOPLE OFTEN ARE CALLING IT KILLER KING
14 BUT I'M PRETTY SURE, YOU KNOW, THAT PEOPLE CALL KING DREW
15 MEDICAL CENTER KILLER KING BECAUSE MANY OF YOU SAY THAT PEOPLE
16 TEND TO DIE HERE BUT PEOPLE DIE AT EVERY HOSPITAL. [CHEERS
17 AND APPLAUSE]

18

19 **CHUMA OBIOR:** IF A PERSON DIES AT KING, IT IS USUALLY BECAUSE
20 THEY'RE EITHER ALMOST DEAD BY THE TIME THEY REACH HERE OR
21 THEY'RE TOO CRITICAL TO SAVE THEIR LIFE. WHY WOULD YOU CLOSE A
22 HOSPITAL THAT'S UNLIKE ANY OTHER HOSPITAL? OTHER HOSPITALS
23 SERVE JUST THE AREA AROUND THEM BUT KING DREW SERVES NOT ONLY
24 WILLOWBROOK BUT ALSO WATTS, COMPTON, SOUTHGATE, PARAMOUNT AND
25 PARTS OF CARSON, LYNWOOD, GARDENA, HAWTHORNE, INGLEWOOD, LOS



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1 ANGELES AND MANY OTHER AREAS. DOCTORS AND NURSES FROM ALL
2 AROUND THE COUNTRY WANT TO TRAIN HERE. THE MILITARY EVEN SENDS
3 DOCTORS TO TRAIN HERE. THE STUDENTS AT GEORGIA UNIVERSITY GO
4 TO KING DREW FOR CLASSES AND TO WORK. TELL ME, WHERE WOULD
5 THEY GO IF YOU CLOSED KING? FINALLY, CAN I ASK ALL OF YOU A
6 QUESTION? HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOU OR YOUR FAMILY MEMBER OR
7 ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS WERE TOLD THAT THEY WANTED TO MOVE A PART
8 OF YOU THAT WOULD EVENTUALLY LEAD TO THE CLOSING OF YOUR WHOLE
9 BODY? [INTERJECTIONS] [APPLAUSE]

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

12

13 **DR. EDWARD ALEXANDER:** I'M DR. EDWARD ALEXANDER WITH ST. MARTIN
14 DE _____ MEDIA INSTITUTE. OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS, THE
15 LOS ANGELES TIMES HAS DULY REPORTED THE DEATHS DUE TO MEDICAL
16 ERROR, SIX INDIVIDUALS. WE KNOW THAT, IN L.A., 6,000
17 INDIVIDUALS WILL DIE EVERY YEAR DUE TO MEDICAL ERRORS. IF WE
18 DIVIDE THOSE BY THE 100 HOSPITALS, WE HAVE 60 DEATHS PER EVERY
19 OTHER HOSPITAL. IF WE DO THE MATH, IT'S SIX OVER 60. KING IS
20 ACTUALLY A CENTER OF EXCELLENCE. [APPLAUSE]

21

22 **DR. EDWARD ALEXANDER:** PART ONE. PART TWO, IT'S IN A CENTER OF
23 EXCELLENCE, SURVIVING ON LITTLE MONEY, ON AN ANEMIC BUDGET.
24 IT'S GOING TO NEED RESTAFFING, IT'S GOING TO NEED
25 REVITALIZATION AND IT'S GOING TO NEED THE THING THAT WE MOST



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1 NEED IS THE IMPACT STUDY. THE IMPACT STUDY ASKS THE REAL
2 QUESTION, WHAT WILL HAPPEN? THE IMPACT STUDY IS A
3 INTERNATIONAL TOOL. YOU CAN FIND IT AT THE WORLD HEALTH
4 ORGANIZATION, YOU CAN FIND IT AT THE UNITED KINGDOM, YOU CAN
5 FIND IT IN CANADA. IT IS A TOOL THAT HAS SPECIFIC PATHWAYS
6 AND, AT THE TOP OF IT, IT ASKS THAT YOU ARE BIASED TOWARD THE
7 POOR. THIS IS AN INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATION, NOT A LOCAL
8 ONE, THAT YOU ARE BIASED TOWARD THE POOR. THERE ARE SOME OTHER
9 THINGS WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT KING HOSPITAL. THAT, FOR EVERY
10 DOLLAR THAT YOU WOULD RECEIVE FOR TRAUMA CARE ON THE WEST
11 SIDE, YOU GOT TWO CENTS FOR THE SAME CARE HERE ON THE EAST
12 SIDE BUT YET THE SAME AMOUNT OF CARE WAS DELIVERED. THAT TAKES
13 HEART. AND THAT'S WHY THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE HERE, BECAUSE OF
14 THE HEART. WE NEED TRANSPARENCY, WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT THE
15 BUDGET WAS OR IS FOR TRAUMA. THERE'S NEVER BEEN MENTION OF A
16 BUDGET. THE REAL NUMBERS WERE NEVER KNOWN BY THE PRINCIPLES
17 INVOLVED. IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE, YOU DON'T KNOW
18 WHERE YOU'RE GOING. IF YOU DON'T KNOW HOW EXCELLENT YOU ARE,
19 IT'S VERY DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO GET A GOLD STANDARD. KING IS A
20 GOLD STANDARD. I'LL CLOSE BY THIS. FIRST OF ALL, WE HAVE TO
21 ASK THE QUESTION, WHAT ARE THE OTHER HOSPITALS DOING? HOW DO
22 WE KNOW WE'RE NOT SENDING PATIENTS INTO HARM'S WAY? IF YOU
23 HAVE 60 DEATHS THAT ARE REPORTED BY THE AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE
24 QUALITY, THEY REPORT TO CONGRESS, IT HAS BEEN REPORTED IN
25 JAMA, IF THERE ARE 60 OUTLYING DEATHS IN EVERY OTHER HOSPITAL



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1 AND ALL WE HAVE REPORTED AT KING ARE SIX, WHERE ARE WE SENDING
2 OUR PATIENTS?

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

5

6 **DR. EDWARD ALEXANDER:** ONE LAST POINT. THE IMPACT STUDY MUST
7 TAKE A LOOK AT THE STRUCTURAL VIABILITY OF CALIFORNIA
8 HOSPITAL. WHEN AN EARTHQUAKE CAME IN 1994, ST. JOHN'S
9 HOSPITAL, GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL, AS WELL AS CALIFORNIA
10 HOSPITAL...

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

13

14 **DR. EDWARD ALEXANDER:** ...SUSTAINED SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE. BEFORE
15 WE MOVE PEOPLE DOWN THERE, LET'S MAKE SURE THAT THAT IMPACT
16 STUDY IS TRANSPARENT AND COMPLETE.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. DR. HENRY. [APPLAUSE]

19

20 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** DR. HENRY, THEN CHIEF SMITH, ALEX CLAYTON,
21 UNGRA LEWIS, VIVIAN JOHNSON, AND EDWARD SAVVY.

22

23 **DR. JEAN-CLAUDE HENRY:** MR. CHAIRMAN, DISTINGUISHED BOARD OF
24 SUPERVISORS AND HONORED GUESTS AND DR. GARTHWAITE. THANK YOU
25 FOR ALLOWING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT MY CASE ON WHY THE



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1 KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER SHOULD REMAIN OPEN. MY NAME IS JEAN-
2 CLAUDE HENRY, DR. HENRY. I HAPPEN TO BE YOUR TRAUMA DIRECTOR
3 AT THE KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. [MUCH CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

4

5 **DR. JEAN-CLAUDE HENRY:** I HAVE OVER 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN
6 MANAGING CRITICALLY INJURED TRAUMA PATIENTS AND I FEEL THAT
7 I'M EXCEPTIONALLY QUALIFIED TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT
8 REGARDING THIS TRAUMA CENTER. THE QUESTIONS THAT NEED TO BE
9 ANSWERED ARE SIMPLY THESE: NUMBER ONE, WILL A PATIENT DIE AS A
10 RESULT OF BEING DIVERTED AWAY FROM THE KING DREW TRAUMA
11 CENTER? SECOND, DOES A FEW MINUTES' DELAY IN TREATMENT IMPACT
12 THE SURVIVAL OF CRITICALLY INJURED PATIENTS? AND, LASTLY, DO
13 INDIVIDUAL LIVES MATTER? [INTERJECTIONS]

14

15 **DR. JEAN-CLAUDE HENRY:** IN MY EXPERIENCED OPINION, THE ANSWER
16 TO ALL THREE OF THESE QUESTIONS IS AN ABSOLUTELY RESOUNDING
17 100% "YES". [APPLAUSE]

18

19 **DR. JEAN-CLAUDE HENRY:** ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN. RECENTLY, AS YOU
20 ARE ALL AWARE, OUR TRAUMA CENTERS-- OUR TRAUMA CENTER WAS
21 UNDER DIVERSION FOR 22 DAYS, 81% OF THE TIME. DURING THAT
22 TIME, THE KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER WAS SUPPOSED TO BE CLOSED TO
23 ALL TRANSFERS IN THIS FACILITY. HOWEVER, DURING THIS TIME
24 FRAME, WE CONTINUED TO RECEIVE TRAUMA PATIENTS BOARDING BY
25 BOTH PARAMEDIC AMBULANCES AS WELL AS BY BOTH FAMILY MEMBERS



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1 AND FRIENDS. YOU MAY ASK THE QUESTION, WHY DID THE PARAMEDICS
2 CONTINUE TO BRING TRAUMA PATIENTS TO KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER
3 DESPITE THIS DIVERSION? THE ANSWER WAS SIMPLY, IN THEIR
4 EXPERIENCED OPINION, THESE PATIENTS WOULD HAVE DIED IF THEY
5 HAD ANY DELAY IN TRANSPORT TO ANOTHER TRAUMA CENTER. AND,
6 AFTER ALL, WHO IS MORE QUALIFIED TO MAKE THE CRITICAL
7 DECISIONS ON WHERE TO TRANSPORT A PATIENT BLEEDING TO DEATH
8 THAN OUR SUPERB PARAMEDICS? [APPLAUSE]

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA:** THANK YOU.

11

12 **DR. JEAN-CLAUDE HENRY:** IT IS APPARENT THAT THESE PARAMEDICS
13 BELIEVES, AS I, THAT PATIENTS WILL DIE AS A RESULT OF BEING
14 DIVERTED AWAY FROM KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER, AND THAT A FEW
15 MINUTES' DELAY IN TREATMENT DOES, I EMPHASIZE, DOES ADVERSELY
16 AFFECT THE SURVIVAL OF CRITICALLY INJURED PATIENTS.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

19

20 **DR. JEAN-CLAUDE HENRY:** MR. CHAIRMAN, MAY I BE AFFORDED A FEW
21 MORE MINUTES, PLEASE? [INTERJECTIONS]

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** MA'AM, RELAX, I THOUGHT HE WAS FINISHED,
24 OKAY? [INTERJECTIONS]

25



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1 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. RELAX! I'M TRYING TO LET
2 EVERYONE SPEAK. EASY. [INTERJECTIONS]

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YES, SIR. GO AHEAD.

5

6 **DR. JEAN-CLAUDE HENRY:** I BASE THIS STATEMENT ON THE TYPE OF
7 INJURIES THAT WE'RE SEEING IN THESE PATIENTS IN MY 20 PLUS
8 YEARS OF TRAUMA SURGERY EXPERIENCE. MANY OF THESE PATIENTS
9 BOARDING BY PARAMEDICS THROUGH THIS PERIOD OF DIVERSION
10 SUSTAINED MULTIPLE GUNSHOT WOUNDS THAT INJURED MAJOR BLOOD
11 VESSELS, RESULTING IN MASSIVE AND LIFE-THREATENING BLEEDING.
12 WHEN THESE PATIENTS UNDERWENT AN IMMEDIATE OPERATION TO STOP
13 THE MASSIVE BLEEDING, IT WAS VERY APPARENT TO ME THAT ANY
14 FURTHER CONTINUED SUSTAINED AND UNCONTROLLED BLEEDING, AS
15 WOULD ABSOLUTELY OCCUR WITH A DELAY DUE TO DIVERSION TO
16 ANOTHER TRAUMA CENTER, WOULD HAVE RESULTED IN THESES PATIENTS
17 BLEEDING TO DEATH. THESE ARE EXACTLY THE TYPE OF INJURIES THAT
18 NEED TO BE TREATED BY THE NEAREST TRAUMA CENTER AND WHY
19 CLOSURE OF OUR TRAUMA CENTER WILL RESULT IN THE NEEDLESS
20 PATIENTS BLEEDING TO DEATH. AND, UNLESS ANYONE IN THIS ROOM
21 CONTRADICTS WHEN THERE WILL NOT BE A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT
22 RESULTING IN A TRAFFIC JAM IN THIS CITY, THEN I THINK THAT WE
23 NEED TO FACTOR INTO THE EQUATION THAT MINUTES DELAY COULD, IN
24 REALITY, TRANSLATE INTO A HOUR OF DELAY WITH DEADLY
25 CONSEQUENCES. IN ADDITION, SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF OUR TRAUMA



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1 PATIENTS CONTINUE TO ARRIVE BY FAMILY MEMBERS OR FRIENDS WHO
2 DO NOT CARE IF THEIR TRAUMA CENTER IS UNDER DIVERSION. THE
3 ONLY WANT THEIR LOVED ONES' LIVES SAVED. ANY DIVERSION WILL
4 NOT PREVENT THESE UNEXPECTED TRAUMA PATIENTS WHO ARE LITERALLY
5 OFTEN DROPPED OFF AT THE FRONT DOOR WHILE BLEEDING TO DEATH.
6 CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA CENTER WILL UNDOUBTEDLY RESULT IN THESE
7 PATIENTS DYING UNNECESSARILY AS WELL. FINALLY, SINCE CLOSURE
8 OF OUR TRAUMA CENTER WOULD RESULT IN PATIENTS DYING
9 UNNECESSARILY, WE NEED TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION, WHAT IS THE
10 VALUE OF A SINGLE HUMAN LIFE? IN MEDICAL SCHOOL, WE ARE TAUGHT
11 THAT ALL HUMAN LIVES ARE SACRED AND THAT EVERY SINGLE LIFE IS
12 PRECIOUS AND SHOULD BE PRESERVED. IT DOES NOT MATTER WHETHER
13 TO PHYSICIANS WHETHER YOU ARE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, WHITE-
14 COLLAR WORKER, BLUE-COLLAR WORKER, ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT OR GANG
15 MEMBER. EVERYONE DESERVES THE BEST CHANCE TO LIFE. [APPLAUSE
16]

17

18 **DR. JEAN-CLAUDE HENRY:** AFTER ALL... [APPLAUSE CONTINUES]

19

20 **DR. JEAN-CLAUDE HENRY:** AFTER ALL, WE PHYSICIANS ARE NOT BEAN
21 COUNTERS AND I WOULD HOPE, FOR THE SAKE OF THIS CITY, THAT THE
22 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WOULD AGREE WITH ME THAT EVERY LIFE IS
23 PRECIOUS AND WORTH SAVING, NO MATTER WHOSE SON, DAUGHTER,
24 BROTHER, SISTER, GRANDPARENT, FATHER, OR MOTHER THEY BELONG
25 TO. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR ALLOWING ME TO CONTINUE.



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1

2 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. CHIEF RICO SMITH, ALAN CLAYTON, AUDRA
5 LEWIS, VIVIAN JOHNSON, EDWARD SAVAGE, THOMAS KUTUSKI. CHIEF?

6

7 **CHIEF RICO SMITH:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH, HONORABLE SUPERVISORS.
8 SUPERVISOR KNABE, THIS MIGHT TAKE MORE THAN TWO MINUTES. I
9 HAVE WITH ME TODAY ENRICO SMITH, FIRE CHIEF, CITY OF COMPTON;
10 OUR MEDICAL DIRECTOR, DR. SHEPARD, WHO WORKS FOR THE CITY OF
11 COMPTON AND HE IS ALSO HAS WORKED IN THE TRAUMA CENTER HERE AT
12 M.L.K., AND HAS ALSO TRAINED HERE. DURING MY 31-YEAR CAREER AS
13 A FIREFIGHTER, I'VE HAD THE EXPERIENCE OF RESPONDING TO MARTIN
14 LUTHER KING TRAUMA CENTER ON A ROUTINE BASIS. THE COMPTON FIRE
15 DEPARTMENT SUPPORTS KEEPING THE TRAUMA CENTER OPEN BECAUSE OUR
16 FIREFIGHTERS HAVE SEEN THE OVERWHELMING NEED FOR THIS CENTER,
17 FIRSTHAND IN THE LIVES THAT HAVE BEEN SAVED, ESPECIALLY
18 BECAUSE OF SHORT DISTANCES OF EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION. MANY
19 MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY ARE HERE TODAY BECAUSE OF THE
20 TEAMWORK BETWEEN THE PARAMEDICS IN THE FIELD AND THE TRAUMA
21 CENTER STAFF. THIS IS A RESULT OF IMMEDIATE PATIENT CARE
22 PROVIDED ON THE SCENE AND AT THE RELATIVELY SHORT TRAVEL TO
23 THE TRAUMA CENTER. TIME IS A CRITICAL FACTOR AND IT IS NOT
24 ALWAYS ON OUR SIDE. THE CLOSE PROXIMITY OF SUCH A FACILITY IS
25 VITAL TO THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE, CODE 3 RESPONSE WITH AN



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1 ONBOARD PATIENT IS, IN ITSELF, HAS AN EFFECT ON PATIENT CARE.
2 TO EXTEND THE LENGTH OF TRANSPORTATION ADDS TO THE IMPACT ON
3 THE PATIENT AS WELL AS THE FIRST RESPONDERS. IT'S BEEN SAID,
4 OTHER LOCAL TRAUMA CENTERS WILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST WITH THE
5 NEEDS OF THIS COMMUNITY. WELL, THIS IS A VERY BIG ASSUMPTION
6 BECAUSE THIS IS ASSUMING WE KNOW THAT THE OTHER HOSPITAL
7 PATIENT LOAD IS GOING TO BE-- WHAT THEY'LL BE DOING IN TIMES
8 OF CRITICAL NEED. WHAT WILL THEY BE DOING? WE HAVE NO CLUE.
9 WHAT THIS COMMUNITY DOES NOT NEED IS ITS FAMILY AND LOVED ONES
10 BEING TRANSPORTED TO OTHER DISTANT HOSPITALS AS A RESULT OF
11 THIS POSSIBLE CLOSURE. WHAT THE COMMUNITY DOES NOT NEED IS THE
12 POTENTIAL FOR FAMILY AND LOVED ONES WAITING TO BE SEEN BECAUSE
13 OF ANOTHER HOSPITAL HAS BECOME SATURATED WITH PATIENTS. WHAT
14 THIS COMMUNITY DOES NOT NEED IS THE PARAMEDICS AND AMBULANCES
15 BEING TIED UP IN HOSPITALS FOR LONG PERIODS WITH PATIENTS
16 WAITING TO BE SEEN. CONSIDERATION MUST BE GIVEN TO THE
17 POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE OTHER HOSPITALS. IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING
18 THAT THIS IS NOT A MONEY ISSUE. IT IS ALLEGEDLY A MANAGEMENT
19 PROBLEM. THE FACTS ARE, WE'RE LIVING IN A ADVANCED SOCIETY,
20 LAST I CHECKED, AND IT IS MY BELIEF THIS ISSUE CAN BE FIXED.
21 IF IT IS A MANAGEMENT ISSUE, HOW CAN THE ONLY SOLUTION BE TO
22 CLOSE THE TRAUMA CENTER? THE COMMUNITY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH
23 THE MANAGEMENT CONCERNS OF THE CENTER. WHY SHOULD THEIR
24 POTENTIALLY EMERGENCY HEALTHCARE BE AT RISK? WHAT THIS
25 COMMUNITY DESERVES IS COMPASSION AND UNDERSTANDING AND



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1 OBJECTIVE OVERSIGHT IN THE TRAUMA CENTER. WHAT THIS COMMUNITY
2 DESERVES IS TO MAINTAIN THE SERVICES OF MARTIN LUTHER KING
3 TRAUMA CENTER WHILE THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR
4 OVERSIGHT ADDRESS THE CONCERNS. IN CLOSING, I WILL YIELD MY
5 TIME, THE REST OF MY TIME, TO DR. SHEPARD.

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WELL, YOUR TIME IS UP.

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA:** THERE IS NO TIME. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** DR. SHEPARD, DID YOU SIGN UP? DID YOU SIGN
12 UP? YOUR TIME'S UP, CHIEF, SO...

13

14 **SUP. MOLINA:** SIR, YOU WENT OVER YOUR TIME.

15

16 **CHIEF RICO SMITH:** YOU [INAUDIBLE] IT'S TWO PART PRESENTATION.
17 I BROUGHT HIM HERE WITH ME.

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. YOU HAVE SOME TIME.

20

21 **DR. SHEPARD:** THANK YOU. I WILL ENDEAVOR TO BE BRIEF. I AM
22 PLEASED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH YOU TODAY AS A
23 PROUD AND HONORED GRADUATE OF THIS FINE INSTITUTION ON TWO
24 CAPACITIES, BOTH IN THE ALLIED HEALTH AND IN THE THIRD CLASS



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1 OF MEDICAL SCHOOL HERE AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. I'M

2 PLEASED AND HONORED... [APPLAUSE]

3

4 **DR. SHEPARD:** ...TO SAY THAT I AM VERY MUCH AWARE AND WOULD

5 LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU THE IMPACT THAT THIS WILL HAVE. I

6 TRAINED HERE IN THE TRAUMA CENTER. I STOOD IN THE TRAUMA BAYS

7 AND CARED FOR PEOPLE WHO HAD, IN MANY CASES, NO OTHER PLACE TO

8 GO. AND, ON MANY OCCASIONS, WE HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO

9 BE THERE AND TO SAVE A LIFE THAT OTHERWISE WOULD NOT HAVE HAD

10 THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE. I KNOW, FROM FIRSTHAND

11 EXPERIENCE, THIS WILL HAVE AN IMPACT. IN MY CAPACITY AS

12 MEDICAL DIRECTOR WITH THE COMPTON FIRE DEPARTMENT, NO DOUBT

13 THAT THERE WILL BE A SIGNIFICANT DELAY IN BRINGING OUR UNITS

14 TO BEAR AND BEING ABLE TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES NECESSARY IN

15 CRITICAL TRAUMA SITUATIONS. AND WHILE, TO A LARGE EXTENT, WE

16 ARE LOOKING LARGELY AT NUMBERS, THE REALITY IS THE IMPACT IS

17 GOING TO BE FELT. I CAN REMEMBER A TIME IN THIS COMMUNITY

18 WHERE THERE WERE HOSPITALS ON THE CORNERS OF 120TH STREET AND

19 BROADWAY, ON CENTURY BOULEVARD AND A NUMBER OF OTHER VERY

20 CLOSE LOCATIONS. AND, TODAY, THOSE HOSPITALS ARE NO LONGER IN

21 EXISTENCE. IF WE TAKE AWAY THE TRAUMA CENTER, WE WILL HAVE A

22 DEVASTATING IMPACT ON THOSE WHO VERY MUCH THAT NEED CARE. [

23 APPLAUSE]

24



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1 **DR. SHEPARD:** SO I SAY TO YOU AGAIN, PLEASE RECONSIDER THIS AND
2 UNDERSTAND THAT, IF IT IS A PROBLEM, I ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE TO
3 TRY TO FIND A WAY TO FIX IT.

4

5 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. ALAN CLAYTON, OLGA LEWIS, VIVIAN
8 JOHNSON, EDWARD SAVAGE, THOMAS KADUSKI AND DR. PRINCESS SYKES.

9

10 **ALAN CLAYTON:** THANK YOU, HONORABLE CHAIRMAN KNABE AND BOARD
11 MEMBERS. MY NAME IS ALAN CLAYTON. I'M HERE REPRESENTING THE
12 CLERGY LABOR COALITION FOR LOS ANGELES. AND, ON FRIDAY, I
13 REQUESTED A COPY OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' LETTER BECAUSE I
14 WANTED TO READ IT THOROUGHLY BEFORE I CAME AND TESTIFIED AT
15 THE HEARING AND WHAT I FOUND WAS VERY INTERESTING. IN THE
16 LETTER, IT SAYS, "MEASURE B REQUIRES THE FUNDS RAISED BY
17 INCREASED PROPERTY TAXES. REVENUE WILL BE USED, IN PART, TO
18 MAINTAIN ALL ASPECTS OF THE COUNTY TRAUMA NETWORK. TO EXPAND
19 THE TRAUMA NETWORK TO COVER ALL AREAS OF THE COUNTY PROVIDES
20 THE NATURAL INCENTIVES TO KEEP EXISTING TRAUMA CENTERS WITHIN
21 THE SYSTEM, TO PAY THE COST OF THE TRAUMA CENTERS, INCLUDING
22 PHYSICIAN AND OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS, AND TO DEFRAY
23 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES INCURRED BY DHS IN ADMINISTERING THE
24 PROGRAM." THIS IS WHAT THE LETTER SAID, AND IT GOES ON TO SAY,
25 "THERE'S NO REQUIREMENT, UNDER MEASURE B, THAT THE CURRENT



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1 CONFIGURATION REMAIN THE STATUS QUO." BUT, AS A VOTER, AND I
2 DID VOTE FOR MEASURE B, AND I DO LIVE IN A HOUSE AND WE DO PAY
3 PROPERTY TAX, WHAT I VOTED FOR WAS TO KEEP THE NETWORK THAT WE
4 HAVE AND TO ENHANCE THE NETWORK THAT WE HAVE. WHAT I VOTED FOR
5 WAS TO ENSURE THAT WE HAD QUALITY HEALTHCARE FOR INNER CITY
6 RESIDENTS IN LOS ANGELES BECAUSE THERE'S A TREMENDOUS NEED AND
7 THE NEED IS GROWING. WHAT I VOTED FOR WAS TO ENSURE THAT, WHEN
8 AN INDIVIDUAL IS INJURED, SEVERELY INJURED, THAT THERE BE
9 REASONABLE TIME TO GET THAT INDIVIDUAL. I'VE DRIVEN AROUND LOS
10 ANGELES SINCE I'VE LIVED HERE IN 1986 AND THERE'S TRAFFIC JAMS
11 ALL OVER LOS ANGELES. YOU CAN BE IN AN AMBULANCE AND THEY CAN,
12 YOU KNOW, PUT ON THE SIREN AND I CAN TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENS
13 WHEN THEY GET IN A TRAFFIC JAM. THEY SIT THERE. YOU KNOW,
14 OFFICERS ALSO SIT THERE IN TRAFFIC JAMS SOMETIMES BECAUSE YOU
15 CAN'T GET AROUND THE TRAFFIC IN LOS ANGELES. IT'S HORRIBLE. WE
16 HAVE ONE OF THE MOST CONGESTED CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND
17 IT'S NOT GETTING ANY BETTER.

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY, ALAN.

20

21 **ALAN CLAYTON:** MY CONCERN-- I'LL JUST FINISH UP, THANK YOU,
22 SUPERVISOR KNABE, IS THAT THE TRAVEL TIME COULD BE A KILLER
23 AND I THINK YOU SHOULD LOOK AT IT VERY CAREFULLY. I KNOW YOU
24 HAVE A VERY TOUGH DECISION AND I COMMEND YOU FOR HOLDING THIS
25 OPEN SO YOU CAN HAVE TESTIMONY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



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1

2 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** ALAN? ALAN? ALAN? ALAN? ALAN, FOR THE RECORD,
3 THIS ISSUE IS NOT ABOUT MONEY. IT'S ABOUT MANAGEMENT. SO IT'S
4 NOT ABOUT MONEY. THE MONEY IS NOT THE ISSUE ON THIS ISSUE.

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. AUDRA LEWIS, VIVIAN JOHNSON, EDWARD
7 SAVAGE, THOMAS TADUSKI, DR. SYKES AND LISA ALEXANDER.

8

9 **PHYLLIS STICKNEY:** ADRIAN DOVE HAS YIELDED THE TIME TO ME. MY
10 NAME IS STICKNEY AND I--

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** PHYLLIS WHAT?

13

14 **PHYLLIS STICKNEY:** STICKNEY, S-T-I-C-K-N-E-Y. I BEG TO DIFFER.
15 I THINK IT IS ABOUT MONEY. ULTIMATELY, IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT MONEY
16 WHEN YOU MAKE SOME OF THE DECISIONS. IT'S NOT ABOUT LIFE
17 BECAUSE, IF IT WAS LIFE, EVERYONE HERE HAS GIVEN YOU ENOUGH
18 INFORMATION, FROM THE POLITICIANS, COMMUNITY LEADERS,
19 CLERGYMEN, TO LET YOU KNOW THAT THEY DO WANT THIS CENTER OPEN.
20 I AM BLESSED AND CURSED TO BE TRAVELING BETWEEN BOTH COASTS SO
21 I'VE SEEN WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THIS COMMUNITY. I'VE SEEN IT
22 HAPPEN IN HARLEM IF YOU ALLOW WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO DO TO BE
23 DONE. I CAN TELL YOU THAT IT WILL NOT REFLECT ANY OF THEIR
24 SENSIBILITIES, IT WILL NOT ADDRESS ANY OF THEIR NEEDS. AND I'M
25 NOT TALKING ABOUT INSTEAD OF BUT IN ADDITION TO SOME OF THOSE



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1 THINGS THAT YOU PLANNED FOR CALIFORNIA. WHEN I'VE HEARD THINGS
2 NOW THAT I'M BEING TAUGHT, THIS IS THE ONLY BLACK MEDICAL
3 SCHOOL WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI. AND SO, IF YOU TAKE THAT
4 SCHOOL AWAY, THE RAMIFICATIONS WILL BE GREATER THAN YOU WILL
5 EVEN SIT HERE, AND I'VE WATCHED YOU ALL AS YOU HAVE TRIED TO
6 IGNORE ME THIS MORNING AND I'M SURE YOU'VE TRIED TO IGNORE
7 THIS COMMUNITY IN THE SAME WAY THAT YOU'VE TRIED TO IGNORE ME.
8 SO I'M THAT SPOOK WHO CONTINUES TO SIT BY THE DOOR TO TELL YOU
9 THAT WE ARE NOT GOING TO BE SILENT BUT IT'S NOT OKAY; THAT
10 YOUR ARROGANCE IS UNCONSCIONABLE AND THAT YOU'VE SAT HERE AND
11 REALLY NOT LISTENED MOST OF THE TIME. [INTERJECTIONS]

12

13 **PHYLLIS STICKNEY:** YOU'VE DONE A GREAT DISSERVICE TO
14 YOURSELVES, NOT THE COMMUNITY ONLY BUT TO YOURSELVES BECAUSE I
15 CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THEY ARE ANGRY, THAT THEY ARE INCENSED AND
16 THAT THEY ARE IMPATIENT AND WILL NO LONGER TOLERATE YOUR
17 DISRESPECT. SO, FOR WHATEVER REASONS YOU HAVE, I SUGGEST THAT
18 YOU REALLY GO BACK AND FIND THAT 13 MILLION THAT YOU WERE
19 TRYING TO GIVE TO NAVIGANT OR WHOEVER THEY WERE AND
20 REDISTRIBUTE THOSE FUNDS AND REDIRECT THOSE FUNDS SO THAT THEY
21 CAN REALLY HELP THE COMMUNITY AND THE MAGNATE OF KING DREW AS
22 IT'S NEEDED. SO AS YOU SAY, IT'S A SMALL ISSUE, EARLY ON, IT'S
23 SO SIMPLE. IT IS REALLY SIMPLE, IF YOU REALLY WANT TO RESOLVE
24 IT AND NOT JUST FATTEN YOUR POCKETS. SO I WOULD JUST SAY, IF
25 WE REALLY...



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1

2 **SUP. MOLINA:** THANK YOU. THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. THANK YOU.

5

6 **PHYLLIS STICKNEY:** ...FOLLOW THE BUCK AND SEE WHERE IT REALLY,
7 REALLY ENDS AND WHAT YOUR INTEREST IS IN IT, YOU, SIR AND
8 YOUR-- YOUR PARTNERS IN CRIME. THANK YOU.

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** AUDRA LEWIS. AUDRA LEWIS. [CHEERS AND
11 APPLAUSE]

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** LEONARD SHAPIRO. ASK LEONARD TO JOIN THE...
14 [APPLAUSE]

15

16 **SAKKARA INGRID THOMAS:** I JUST WANT TO START BY ASKING
17 PERMISSION FROM QUEEN MOTHER LILLIAN, MAY I SPEAK? OKAY. THANK
18 YOU. MY NAME IS SAKKARA INGRID THOMAS. I AM THE FOUNDER OF
19 QUEENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, THE
20 DISTRICT WHERE YOU'RE FROM, YOUR HONORABLE KNABE. FOR THE LAST
21 FOUR YEARS, YOU'VE BEEN INVOLVED WITH A PROJECT WITH US AT THE
22 PYRAMID CALLED THE FESTIVAL OF AFRICAN ROYALTY. YOU'VE ONE OF
23 OUR SPONSORS. AND WE BROUGHT OVER 30,000 CHILDREN FROM
24 THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BUT I'M HERE TODAY TO LET YOU
25 KNOW THAT THE SUCCESS OF THAT PROGRAM BEFORE THOSE FOUR YEARS



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1 HAD A LOT TO DO WITH THESE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY HERE. IN
2 1980, MAXINE WATERS SPONSORED MY FIRST QUEENS OF THE NILE
3 PERFORMANCE. IN 1987, I TRAVELED TO EGYPT WITH QUEEN MOTHER
4 LILLIAN AND WITH JESSE JACKSON AND WITH KORENGA. THESE ARE THE
5 PEOPLE WHO HAVE TAUGHT AND RAISED ME SO THAT I AM ABLE TO
6 PRODUCE SOMETHING SUCCESSFUL IN OUR COMMUNITY IN LONG BEACH
7 TODAY AND THEY HAVE TAKEN THE TIME, A LOT OF TIME, TO HELP US.
8 AND I'M HERE TODAY TO JUST ASK YOU AND THE BOARD, THE
9 SUPERVISORS, COULD YOU TAKE THE TIME AND LISTEN TO THEM? THEY
10 ARE OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS. THEY'VE SPENT TIME WITH US.
11 THEY'VE HELPED US CREATE A VERY SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM THAT,
12 WITHOUT THEM, WOULD NOT EXIST. AND WE JUST NEED YOUR SUPPORT.
13 IN CLOSING, I'D LIKE TO SAY THERE IS AN ACHIEVEMENT GAP RIGHT
14 NOW IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THERE IS ALSO A GAP HERE BUT
15 I'LL TELL YOU, LIKE MY SON SAID, WHEN I ASKED HIM, WHAT DO THE
16 LETTERS ON YOUR T-SHIRT MEAN, G-A-P? HE SAID, "MOM, THIS IS
17 OUR YOUTH CHURCH REVIVAL T-SHIRT, GAP MEANS GOD ANSWERS
18 PRAYERS. AND OUR PRAYER TODAY OF OUR FAMILY HERE, MY EXTENDED
19 FAMILY HERE IS THAT THE KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER STAY OPEN.
20 THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE CONTINUES]

23

24 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OLGA LEWIS.

25



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1 **VIVIAN JOHNSON:** HI, I'M VIVIAN JOHNSON. BEFORE I START, I
2 WOULD LIKE TO SAY HOW PROUD I AM OF MY COMMUNITY FOR COMING
3 OUT TODAY AND SO WE ARE NOT GOING TO TAKE THIS. WE ARE NOT
4 GOING TO ALLOW YOU TO STEP ON US AND PUSH US TO THE SIDE. IT
5 CANNOT HAPPEN. I WEAR MANY HATS HERE TONIGHT. THE FIRST HAT I
6 WEAR IS BEING A MEMBER OF THIS COMMUNITY FOR 35 YEARS. I'VE
7 BEEN COMING TO THIS HOSPITAL SINCE A CHILD. THIS IS WHAT MADE
8 ME WORK HERE, SEEING PEOPLE OF COLOR WALK AROUND WITH
9 ADMINISTRATIVE JOBS, DOCTORS, RADIOLOGISTS, AND SO ON. AND I
10 ALSO BRING MY SEVEN YEAR DAUGHTER HERE TO SEE IT GO ON AS
11 WELL. SHE IS OUR FUTURE HERE IN OUR COMMUNITY. HOW MANY OF YOU
12 HAD TO ASSIST SOMEONE BEING SHOT ON YOUR FRONT DOOR, GIVING
13 THEM C.P.R., WAITING ON THE AMBULANCE TO GET THERE 30 MINUTES
14 LATER AND THEN THEY CAN'T EVEN ASSIST THE VICTIM? WHY? BECAUSE
15 THE POLICE IS NOT EVEN THERE. SO YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THESE
16 PEOPLE ARE GOING TO MAKE IT DOWNTOWN? PLEASE DON'T LET THERE
17 BE A LAKER GAME. THEY ARE GOING TO DIE AND YOU KNOW IT AS WELL
18 AS I DO. THIS IS MORE THAN JUST ECONOMICS. IF IT'S NOT
19 ECONOMICS, THEN SETTLE THE NURSES CONTRACT. WHY ARE YOU
20 OFFERING THEM A LAST AND FINAL CONTRACT IF IT'S NOT ABOUT
21 ECONOMICS? THAT IS THE FIRST START IN REBUILDING THIS HOSPITAL
22 IS GETTING US A NURSE CONTRACT. HOW ARE YOU GOING TO OFFER
23 THEM A 10% BONUS WITH STIPULATIONS? NO. THAT DOES NOT WORK. WE
24 NEED A CONTRACT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND YOU KNOW THIS AS
25 WELL AS I DO. THIS IS WHAT'S GOING TO KEEP OUR HOSPITAL



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1 THRIVING, ALONG WITH HIRING CUSTODIANS. WHY ARE WE'RE GETTING
2 RIGGED UP FOR J.C.A.H.O. FOR HAVING A DIRTY HOSPITAL WHEN
3 WE'RE 85 CUSTODIANS SHORT? YOU MEAN NO ONE IN THIS COMMUNITY
4 WANTS JOBS? NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE. IN CLOSING, I WOULD LIKE TO
5 SAY, I AM URGING YOU TO PLEASE TURN AROUND THE VOTE THAT YOU
6 HAVE ALREADY DECIDED ABOUT CLOSING THE TRAUMA CENTER BECAUSE
7 WE NEED THIS PLACE. THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** SIR, IDENTIFY YOURSELF.

10

11 **ANTONIO BONET:** ANTONIO BONET.

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WHO?

14

15 **ANTONIO BONET:** ANTONIO BONET. THEY CALLED ME BEFORE BUT I
16 WASN'T HERE. CAN I JUST GIVE IT REAL QUICK?

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THAT'S A GOOD TRY, BUT WE'LL LET YOU GO
19 AHEAD AND SPEAK.

20

21 **ANTONIO BONET:** OKAY. THANKS. MY NAME IS ANTONIO BONET AND I'M
22 A _____ HERE AT DREW, UCLA MEDICAL STUDENT. [CHEERS
23 AND APPLAUSE]

24



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1 **ANTONIO BONET:** LIKE MANY MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY, I AM ALSO
2 AN IMMIGRANT AND, AS SUCH, I AM HERE REPRESENTING THEM AS WELL
3 AS U.C.L.A. AND DREW MEDICAL STUDENTS. SEVEN YEARS AGO, MY
4 MOTHER AND I LEFT EL SALVADOR AND EXPERIENCED HARDSHIPS IN
5 IMMIGRATING TO THE UNITED STATES, POVERTY, PREJUDICE AND LACK
6 OF HEALTHCARE. I ALWAYS HAD A DREAM OF BEING A PHYSICIAN, LIKE
7 MY MOTHER, ONE THAT IS COMMITTED TO CARING FOR THE
8 UNDERSERVED. MY CLASSMATES AND I HAVE FOUND OUR PLACE AT DREW
9 AND WE WANT TO FINISH OUR TRAINING HERE SO WE CAN BETTER SERVE
10 THIS AND OTHER DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES. [APPLAUSE]

11

12 **ANTONIO BONET:** BUT I AM CONCERNED OF THE RECOMMENDATION BY THE
13 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES TO CLOSE THE TRAUMA UNIT WILL
14 COMPROMISE THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE WHO DEPEND ON THIS
15 EMERGENCY CARE. FURTHERMORE, I FEEL THAT THIS DECISION WOULD
16 LIMIT THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION OF THE STUDENTS AND
17 PHYSICIANS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO SERVING THIS COMMUNITY IN THE
18 FUTURE. [APPLAUSE]

19

20 **ANTONIO BONET:** WITH THE HIGH RATE OF VIOLENCE AND
21 WILLOWBROOK/WATTS, THIS COMMUNITY UNDENIABLY NEEDS A TRAUMA
22 FACILITY NEARBY. EVEN IF THE SURROUNDING HOSPITALS ARE
23 UPGRADED TO ACCOMMODATE THOSE PATIENTS, INCREASED TRANSPORT
24 TIMES WILL BE DETRIMENTAL FOR CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS. CLOSING
25 THE TRAUMA UNIT AT KING DREW WILL DIMINISH THE ACCESS TO



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1 CRITICAL CARE IN THE AREA THAT NEEDS IT THE MOST. THE PROPOSED
2 CLOSURE WILL ALSO IMPACT CLINICAL TRAINING PROGRAMS RELATING
3 TO TRAUMA, AFFECTING ALL AREAS OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS. KING
4 DREW IS RECOGNIZED FOR PRODUCING PHYSICIANS THAT PRACTICE IN
5 UNDERSERVED AREAS. I CHOSE DREW FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRAIN
6 AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER AND WORK IN ITS RENOWNED TRAUMA
7 CENTER. [APPLAUSE]

8

9 **ANTONIO BONET:** ONCE KING DREW LOSES ITS TRAUMA DOCTORS AND
10 STAFF, IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO GET THEM BACK. THE
11 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES RECOMMENDATIONS WILL NOT ALLOW
12 ME AND OTHER FUTURE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO CARRY ON KING
13 DREW'S MISSION TO PROVIDE CARE FOR THIS COMMUNITY. I RECOGNIZE
14 THE CHALLENGES FACING THE COUNTY BUT I DISAGREE WITH THE
15 DECISION TO DISMANTLE KING DREW. YES, THERE ARE PROBLEMS AT
16 KING BUT CLOSING THE TRAUMA CENTER HURTS BOTH THE COMMUNITY
17 AND THE HOSPITAL. I URGE YOU TO LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE THAT YOU
18 REPRESENT AND EXPLORE OTHER, MORE SENSIBLE, SOLUTIONS. THESE
19 ARE THE PEOPLE THAT NEED THIS TRAUMA CENTER AND HAVE THE RIGHT
20 TO DECIDE ITS FATE. PLEASE CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING
21 RECOMMENDATIONS: KEEP THE TRAUMA UNIT OPEN AND FULLY
22 OPERATIONAL, MAINTAIN STABLE AND PERMANENT STAFF, CREATE A NEW
23 SYSTEM OF REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY WITH FORMAL COMMUNITY
24 INVOLVEMENT AND COMMIT TO LONG-TERM INVESTMENT AND JOB
25 CREATION IN SOUTH LOS ANGELES. LET'S REMEMBER THAT IT WAS



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1 NEGLIGENCE TOWARD THIS COMMUNITY THAT LED TO THE BUILDING OF
2 THE MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL AND CHARLES R. DREW
3 UNIVERSITY. CONSCIENTIOUS LEADERS FOUGHT A LONG AND HARD
4 BATTLE TO PROVIDE THIS COMMUNITY WITH HEALTH AND EDUCATION.
5 LET'S NOT ALLOW THEIR STRUGGLE TO BE IN VAIN. I STAND IN
6 SOLIDARITY WITH MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THE WORKERS, STUDENTS
7 AND COMMUNITY HERE TODAY. THIS HOSPITAL BELONGS TO THE PEOPLE.
8 [SPEAKS SPANISH] [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE CONTINUES
11]

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. OKAY. DO YOU WANT TO IDENTIFY
14 YOURSELF, PLEASE. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE CONTINUES] [AUDIO OFF
15 THEN ON]

16

17 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. IDENTIFY YOURSELF, PLEASE.

18

19 **DR. PRINCESS SYKES:** YES, I AM EVANGELIST, DR. PRINCESS SYKES.
20 TURN YOUR CLOCK OFF BECAUSE, WHEN I GO INTO A VOTING BOOTH,
21 THERE IS NO CLOCK. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

22

23 **DR. PRINCESS SYKES:** PLEASE TURN IT OFF. I ASK YOU...

24

25 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IT'S GOING TO GO OFF. KEEP TESTIFYING.



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1

DR. PRINCESS SYKES: I ASKED WHEN I CAME UP HERE EARLIER BEFORE
YOU STARTED FOR PERTINENT INFORMATION AND THEN I ASKED, DID
YOU KNOW THE PROCESS FOR RECALL? EVERY TIME I BOUGHT A
AUTOMOBILE OR TRUCK, SOMETHING WENT WRONG, I GOT A LETTER IN
THE MAIL SAYING IT HAS BEEN RECALLED. BRING IT ON IN AND WE'RE
GOING TO FIX IT. AIN'T NEVER SAY, "SHUT IT DOWN." I COME HERE
TODAY. I SAID HERE-- I HAVE IN MY CAR SOME GREAT GRANDBABIES,
GREAT, GREAT GRANDBABIES OF LILLIAN MOBLEY. ONE FIVE-WEEK OLD
BABY, A 11-MONTH AND A FIVE-YEAR-OLD SITTING OUT THERE IN THE
CAR WAITING FOR ME TO COME HERE TO HAVE MY SAY, SO PLEASE
DON'T PUT NO CLOCK ON ME. PLEASE DON'T DO THAT TO ME TODAY.

13

SUP. KNABE, CHAIR: THE CLOCK'S ON. WE'VE GOT A LOT OF PEOPLE
TO TESTIFY.

16

DR. PRINCESS SYKES: LET ME SAY THIS. SIR, WHAT YOU'RE TALKING
ABOUT DOING WILL BE FOR A LIFETIME FOR SOMEBODY. NOT TWO
MINUTES. WHEN I GO TO VOTE, I GOT ALL THE TIME I WANT, OKAY? I
REMEMBER THE STORY OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN. ONE PASSED BY AND
SAY, "IF I STOP AND HELP HIM, WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME?"
THE NEXT ONE PASSED BY AND SAY, "IF I DON'T STOP TO HELP HIM,
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO HIM?" I SAY TO YOU, DR. GARTHWAITE,
THERE IS A PARABLE THAT SAYS, "MAY THE WORK GOD DOES SPEAK FOR
ME." SUPERVISORS, YOUR WORK MUST SPEAK FOR YOU. RIGHT NOW, IF



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1 THAT HOSPITAL SHOULDN'T OF BEEN THERE, IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN
2 THERE. YOU GOT ALL KIND OF EXCUSES, BUT LET ME GIVE YOU A
3 LITTLE PARABLE HERE. IT'S CALLED A DRESSED-UP LIE. OLD MAN
4 LIE-- NO, YOU JUST LISTEN, SIR. IT'S VERY, VERY IMPORTANT.

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YOUR TIME IS UP.

7

8 **DR. PRINCESS SYKES:** OLD MAN LIE AND OLD MAN TRUTH... [YELLING
9]

10

11 **DR. PRINCESS SYKES:** ...WENT SWIMMING. AND OLD MAN TRUTH GOT
12 DROWNED. OLD MAN LIE GOT OUT OF THE WATER, PUT ON OLD MAN
13 TRUTH'S CLOTHES, AND WALKED TO THE STREET AND EVERYBODY SAYS,
14 "HELLO, MR. TRUTH." HE WAS NOTHING BUT A DRESSED UP LIE. WE
15 DON'T NEED HIM HERE TODAY. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

16

17 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

18

19 **MOLLIE BELL:** MY NAME IS MOLLIE BELL AND I'M STRAIGHT OUT OF
20 COMPTON. HOWEVER, AUDRA LEWIS HAS GIVEN ME HER SPOT AND YOU'RE
21 GOING TO ALSO CALL ON ME...

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ON AUDRA LEWIS?

24



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1 **MOLLIE BELL:** YES. BUT I'M MOLLIE BELL, STRAIGHT OUT OF
2 COMPTON. AND I WOULD, AS WE LISTEN TO THESE HEARINGS, THERE'S
3 A PART OF ME THAT WANTS THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND THE
4 POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PUT UP THIS YELLOW TAPE BECAUSE I THINK
5 THIS IS A CRIME AND I THINK THAT WE NEED A CRIMINAL
6 INVESTIGATION. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

7

8 **MOLLIE BELL:** THIS IS A CRIME SCENE RIGHT HERE. WE NEED TO CALL
9 IN C.S.I. SO WE CAN INVESTIGATE WHAT'S GOING ON. [CHEERS AND
10 APPLAUSE]

11

12 **MOLLIE BELL:** AS A COMMUNITY ACTIVIST, I KNOW WHAT IT IS, I'VE
13 SEEN PEOPLE, I KNOW WHAT IT IS FOR ACCESSORY TO MURDER, I KNOW
14 WHAT IT IS TO CONSPIRE TO COMMIT MURDER. [INTERJECTIONS]

15

16 **MOLLIE BELL:** ANY TIME YOU CAN SIT HERE AND HEAR THE PEOPLE SAY
17 THAT THE AMBULANCE CAN'T GET THERE IN TIME, YOU HEAR THE
18 DOCTORS SAY IT, YOU HEAR ALL THE PEOPLE TELL YOU THAT THEIR
19 PEOPLE WILL DIE, LIVES WILL BE GONE AND, IF YOU ALLOW THAT,
20 THEN YOU NEED TO BE CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT MURDER.
21 [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

22

23 **MOLLIE BELL:** AND IF WE HAVE TO CALL IT THAT, SUPERVISOR YVONNE
24 BRATHWAITE-BURKE, YOU RAN THIS LAST TIME AND ON-- I GOT YOUR
25 PAPERS, YOU SAID, "WE WILL NOT CLOSE KING DREW." THAT'S WHAT



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1 YOU SAID. I'M STANDING ON YOUR WORD. YOU NEED TO CALL IN SOME
2 OF YOUR PROMISES FROM SOME OF YOUR COLLEAGUES. I KNOW YOU
3 VOTED WITH THEM ON SOME THINGS! NOW IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO SAY,
4 "COME ON, Y'ALL, GET WITH ME." ALL WE NEED IS YOU AND THREE
5 MORE OTHER SUPERVISORS AND IT'S OVER WITH! YOU AND THREE MORE
6 SUPERVISORS! MOLINA, COME ON, YOU KNOW WHAT YOU NEED TO DO!
7 KNABE, YOU KNOW WHAT YOU NEED TO DO! I DON'T KNOW WHO THE
8 OTHER ONE IS BUT I KNOW WE WILL SEE YOU AGAIN. GARTHWAITE AND
9 LEAF, I DON'T KNOW YOU, I WILL PROBABLY NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN
10 BUT I WILL BE VOTING FOR SOME OF THESE PEOPLE OR NOT VOTING
11 FOR THEM AGAIN!

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MOLLIE.

14

15 **MOLLIE BELL:** WAIT A MINUTE. I GOT ONE MORE MINUTE...

16

17 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. EDWARD...

18

19 **MOLLIE BELL:** ...ON MY TIME SO WHEN YOU GET TO ME, YOU DON'T
20 HAVE TO CALL FOR ME. ALL I JUST WANT TO DO IS TO JUST SAY AS
21 YOU HEAR ALL OF THIS, I DON'T SEE ANY KIND OF WAY YOU CAN MAKE
22 A DECISION ON TOMORROW WITH ALL THESE AFFIDAVITS. I'M ASKING
23 ALL YOU PRAYER WARRIORS OUT THERE, HERE'S WHAT YOU'VE GOT TO
24 DO. YOU'VE GOT TO CONTINUE TO KEEP ON FASTING, YOU'VE GOT TO



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1 KEEP ON PRAYING, BECAUSE THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES. BUT ALWAYS,
2 TO GOD BE THE GLORY! [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THOMAS... [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND
5 APPLAUSE]

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** LISA ALEXANDER, LEONARD SHAPIRO, GABRIEL
8 ALVAREZ, M. BRUCE MASSEY.

9

10 **CHRISTINE KOUNDAKJIAN:** HI, I'M CHRISTINE KOUNDAKJIAN. I'M ONE
11 OF THE REGISTERED NURSES AT KING DREW. I'M TALKING ON BEHALF
12 DR. SAVAGE. HE HAD TO LEAVE. I HAVE TWO QUESTIONS AND ONE IS
13 TO ZEV YAROSLAVSKY AND CHAIRMAN KNABE, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR
14 YOUR PATIENCE. UNLIKE A BOARD OF SUPERVISOR MEETING, PEOPLE
15 RUDELY BEING ESCORTED OUT, YOU'RE VERY PATIENT. THANK YOU.
16 MAYBE YOU CAN RUB OFF ON SOME OF THE OTHER COLLEAGUES OF
17 YOURS. SECOND, THIS IS FOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY. I'M REPRESENTING
18 THE DOCTORS AND THE NURSES. I THINK YOU OWE US AN APOLOGY, AND
19 A BIG APOLOGY. I WANT TO HAVE YOU ANSWER THIS QUESTION TO ME.
20 HOW IS IT POSSIBLE-- YOU KNOW, NURSES AND DOCTORS DON'T JUST
21 HAVE ONE JOB; WE HAVE SEVERAL JOBS, OKAY? NOW, HOW IS IT
22 POSSIBLE, FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M. ON MONDAY MORNING, FOR
23 EXAMPLE, I'M AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER'S TRAUMA CENTER,
24 SURGERY CENTER, WHATEVER, THE I.C.U., AND I'M DEEMED
25 INCOMPETENT, ALONG WITH MY COLLEAGUES, AT KING DREW WHEN I'M



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1 THERE. BUT THEN, THE FOLLOWING DAY, ON MY NEW MOONLIGHTING
2 SHIFT AT ST. JOSEPH'S, FOR EXAMPLE, BECAUSE, ALONG WITH ME AND
3 A COUPLE COLLEAGUES, WE WORK PRIVATE SECTOR AND A LOT OF YOU
4 ELECTED OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN TREATED IN THOSE FACILITIES, NO
5 NAMES NEED TO BE MENTIONED, WERE SO IMPRESSED WITH OUR CARE
6 THAT WAS GIVEN TO YOU THAT YOU COMMENTED AND, YOU KNOW,
7 COMPLIMENTED US AND THEN ONE OF MY OWN COLLEAGUES SAID, "WITH
8 ALL DUE RESPECT, I'M ALSO A COUNTY NURSE." YOU WERE SHOCKED.
9 HOW CAN YOU BE SO WONDERFUL IF YOU'RE A COUNTY NURSE? IT'S
10 LIKE A HYPOCRITICAL OXYMORON. 12 HOURS WE'RE EXCELLENT, 12
11 HOURS WE'RE INCOMPETENT. IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. IT JUST
12 DOESN'T. CAN YOU JUST EXPLAIN THAT TO ME ON YOUR OWN TIME ONCE
13 MY CLOCK IS UP? SECOND, I WAS TO TRY TO GET A PATIENT IN HERE.
14 HE WAS WITH A WHEELCHAIR AND IT WAS JUST TOO CROWDED. ON
15 BEHALF OF THAT PARENT, I DON'T KNOW HIS NAME, HE WANTED TO
16 EXPRESS HIS GRATITUDE TO ALL THE KING DREW FAMILY AT WHAT
17 WONDERFUL CARE WE GAVE HIM. I MET MAXINE WATERS, CONGRESSMAN
18 WATERS IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM PASSING THROUGH AND I WAS SO
19 ELATED TO SEE HOW COMPASSIONATE SHE WAS AND, WHEN I SHARED
20 THAT COMPASSION WITH HER, SHE HAD ME TALK ABOUT THE MIRACLES
21 OF THE WORKPLACE. NOT ONCE YOU MENTIONED THE MIRACLES THAT GO
22 ON AT KING DREW. NEVER! NEVER! ONLY THE HOSPITAL'S-- THE ONLY
23 HOSPITALS-- WE'RE NOT HERE FOR CREDIT. WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND
24 IS WHY YOU ALWAYS KNOCK US DOWN. DR. O'LEARY FROM J.C.A.H.O.
25 NEVER, NEVER ATTACKED THE NURSES AND DOCTORS. HE SAID IT WAS A



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1 SYSTEM PROBLEM, SYSTEM, MISMANAGEMENT SYSTEM PROBLEM. NOT ONE
2 PERSON, THE SYSTEM. SO FIX THAT, PLEASE!

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERS AND
5 APPLAUSE]

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WE'D ASK DR. BRIAN JOHNSON. DR. JOHNSON.

8

9 **PASTOR STUART:** HE'S NOT HERE BUT I'M HERE.

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YES, SIR. IF YOU'D IDENTIFY YOURSELF.

12

13 **PASTOR STUART:** IN THE COMMUNITY, I'M KNOWN AS PASTOR STUART.

14 I'VE BEEN MINISTERING TO THESE PROJECTS. I'M A INNER CITY

15 MISSIONARY HERE. MY CHURCH IS NEW BEGINNINGS COMMUNITY CHURCH

16 ON 103RD STREET AND WATTS.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WE'LL FIND YOUR NAME. I DIDN'T CALL YOU BUT

19 WE'LL CALL YOU. I MEAN, IF EVERYBODY-- IF I HAVE NOT CALLED

20 YOUR NAME, IF YOU'D PLEASE SIT DOWN SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO GO

21 THROUGH ALL THE NAMES. WE'LL EVENTUALLY GET TO YOU.

22

23 **PASTOR STUART:** I EMPLOY THREE EX-GANG MEMBERS AT ONE BUSINESS

24 AND THREE MORE AT MY CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS AND I WORK EVERY

25 DAY. IN 1992, SHORTLY AFTER THE RIOTS, I WAS STABBED IN THE



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1 CHURCH. I PAY MY OWN MEDICAL INSURANCE BUT I HAD THEM RUN ME
2 TO KING DREW MEDICAL-- KING DREW TRAUMA CENTER. AND I WAS
3 BLEEDING TO DEATH BUT THEY SAVED ME. THE BIBLE SAYS, IN
4 PROVERBS CHAPTER 18:13, "HE WHO ANSWERS A MATTER BEFORE HE
5 COMPLETELY HEARS IT, TO HIM IT WILL BE HIS FOLLY AND HIS
6 SHAME." I SAY PLEASE. AND, MS. BURKE, YOU KNOW ME, YOU KNOW
7 WHEN I ASKED YOU FOR BRINGING THE 700 CLUB, I ASKED FOR
8 PERMITS, YOU ALWAYS WAIVED MY FEES. OTHERS OF YOU, I DON'T
9 KNOW YOU, BUT I THINK YOU'RE HONORABLE AND I THINK YOU
10 UNDERSTAND WHAT CLOSING THIS TRAUMA UNIT WILL MEAN NOW. DON'T
11 ANSWER THE MATTER. IT'LL BE YOUR OWN FOLLY AND SHAME. [
12 APPLAUSE]

13

14 **MAXWELL RUSSELL:** I'M A EX-MARINE, BORN IN ALABAMA. MY BROTHER
15 DIED FIGHTING FOR THE COUNTRY! I SERVED IN THE MARINE CORPS!

16

17 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YOU ARE WHO, SIR?

18

19 **MAXWELL RUSSELL:** I'M KNOWN IN THE STREET AS JEWEL MAXWELL! A
20 EX-MARINE! BROTHER DIED FIGHTING FOR THIS COUNTRY! I KNOW THE
21 DEAL ON Y'ALL! Y'ALL FOOL THEM BUT YOU DON'T FOOL ME! YOU
22 GOING TO CLOSE ONE UNIT DOWN AT A TIME 'TIL YOU CLOSE THE
23 WHOLE DAMN HOSPITAL DOWN!! AND AFTER YOU DO THAT, FROM TODAY
24 TO FIVE YEARS, YOU'RE GOING TO FINISH THE HOSPITAL CAESAR
25 CHAVEZ, I'M UP ON YOU, CRACKERS. I'M UP ON YOU. I'M EX-MARINE.



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1 THIS IS THE _____ Y'ALL DOING BUT I'M UP ON YA. EVERY
2 BROTHER I TALK TO IN SOUTH CENTRAL L.A. ON THE WEST SIDE, EAST
3 SIDE, SOUTH CENTRAL GOT GOOD THINGS TO SAY ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER
4 KING. SURE THEY HAVE BECAUSE MARTIN LUTHER KING SAVED THEIR
5 LIVES. [YELLING]

6

7 **MAXWELL RUSSELL:** THEY'RE SCARED TO COME HERE BECAUSE THEY'RE
8 SCARED OF THE POLICE, SCARED OF THEM POLICE!! THE NAZI POLICE
9 THEY'RE SCARED OF LIKE THAT SERGEANT-- THAT BIG SERGEANT WAS
10 STANDING OVER THERE!! STARING AT YOU!! BROTHERS, WE'RE DYING!!
11 AND MARTIN LUTHER KING SAVED THEIR LIVES!! BUT Y'ALL DON'T
12 WANT A BLACK MAN TO BE IN CHARGE OF NOTHING! THAT'S THE DEAL!!
13 YOU DON'T WANT A BLACK MAN THAT WILL STAND UP!! A FREE BLACK
14 MAN! NO, YOU WANT A SLAVE! YOU WANT A YO-YO! YOU WANT A MAN
15 WHO OPERATES ON REMOTE CONTROL!! THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING
16 FOR. AND HAHN GOT RID OF PARKS, CHIEF PARKS, BECAUSE HE WASN'T
17 NO YO-YO. YOU-- CHIEF PARKS DIDN'T WORK ON THOSE GOD DAMNED
18 REMOTE CONTROLS. HE HIS OWN MAN.

19

20 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. YOUR TIME'S UP.

21

22 **MAXWELL RUSSELL:** Y'ALL DON'T WANT NO MAN!! Y'ALL WANT A CHILD
23 [UNINTELLIGIBLE]. THAT'S WHAT Y'ALL WANT. YOU
24 [UNINTELLIGIBLE].

25



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1 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** EASY. EASY. EASY. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

2

3 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. ALL RIGHT. [GAVEL] OKAY, SIR. [
4 INTERJECTIONS]

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IF WE CAN HAVE YOUR ATTENTION, WE HAVE SOME
7 MORE PEOPLE TO TESTIFY HERE. SIR, IF YOU'D IDENTIFY YOURSELF,
8 PLEASE.

9

10 **SHAHEED SALDEM:** MY NAME IS SHAHEED SALDEM.

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WHAT WAS THAT?

13

14 **SHAHEED SALDEM:** SHAHEED SALDEM.

15

16 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** AH, I DIDN'T CALL YOU. YOU SNUCK UP ON ME.

17

18 **SHAHEED SALDEM:** I WON'T BE AS LONG AS THE LAST GENTLEMAN, I
19 GUARANTEE YOU.

20

21 **SUP. BURKE:** DON'T YELL INTO THE MICROPHONE, EITHER.

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** JUST BE GENTLE.

24



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1 **SHAHEED SALDEM:** OKAY. WHAT I WANT TO SAY IS DIRECTED TO ZEV.
2 ZEV, IN THE '80S, WHEN THEY GOT READY TO START THE BLUE LANE,
3 I CALLED INTO THE MICHAEL JACKSON SHOW AND YOU CALLED IN RIGHT
4 BEHIND ME AND I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS A GOOD IDEA AT THAT TIME
5 FOR THEM TO HAVE A BLUE LANE AND THEN TO GO THROUGH THE RED
6 AREA WHERE THE GANG MEMBERS STAY BECAUSE I THOUGHT THAT WOULD
7 CREATE A PROBLEM AND THEN YOU CALLED IN RIGHT BEHIND ME AND
8 MICHAEL JACKSON, HE ASKED YOU, WHAT WAS YOUR THOUGHTS
9 PERTAINING TO THE BLUE LANE GOING THROUGH THE RED AREA? AND
10 YOU AGREED WITH HIM, YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T THINK IT WAS A GOOD
11 IDEA, EITHER. NOW, DO YOU RECALL THAT? OKAY. I SHOULD HAVE
12 KNOWN YOU WERE GOING TO SAY THAT. I HAD NO REASON TO COME UP
13 HERE AND SAY THAT. SO BUT, ANYWAY, HERE'S THE POINT. WHEN YOU
14 CAME ON MICHAEL JACKSON AND YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T THINK IT WAS A
15 GOOD IDEA FOR THAT BLUE CAR TO GO THROUGH THAT RED AREA, I
16 SAY, WELL, THIS IS A GOOD GUY, HE'S A SWELL GUY. HE'S A LITTLE
17 CONCERNED WITH MY PEOPLE. THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT ABOUT YOU. BUT
18 NOW LET'S FAST FORWARD IT TO 2004 AND LOOK AT YOU. YOU'RE UP
19 THERE PUSHING THE DRIVE TO CLOSE THE TRAUMA CENTER. WELL, THIS
20 IS WHAT I HAVE TO TELL YOU, RIGHT WHERE WE'RE ALL GATHERED
21 RIGHT HERE IS WHERE I HAVE BEEN SINCE 1946. AND MY MOTHER, MY
22 PARENT'S PLACE IS STILL THERE, RIGHT OVER THERE, 30 SECONDS
23 FROM HERE, RIGHT NOW AS I SPEAK. AND WHAT I NEED TO TELL YOU
24 IS YOU CHANGED, MY FRIEND. AND YOU KNOW WHAT YOU NEED TO DO?



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1 YOU NEED TO EITHER CHANGE YOUR DREAMS OR CHANGE YOUR
2 ASSOCIATES.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. SAMURAI DOBIE, ED SAVAGE. MR.
5 SAVAGE? ALL RIGHT.

6

7 **M. BRUCE MASSEY, III:** MY NAME IS M. BRUCE MASSEY.

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OH, OKAY,

10

11 **M. BRUCE MASSEY, III:** AND YOU CALLED ME.

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YES, I DID.

14

15 **M. BRUCE MASSEY, III:** I SAT THERE AND WAITED. OKAY. HERE WE
16 GO. FIRST OF ALL, I'M GOING TO TURN A LITTLE THIS WAY BECAUSE
17 I REALLY WANT TO TALK TO MY COMMUNITY. AND LET ME TELL YOU,
18 THESE PEOPLE, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THEM. WHATEVER THEY DO, WE GOT
19 THEM COVERED, BECAUSE THIS RIGHT HERE, AT FIRST IT WAS FULL
20 BUT WE GOT A FEW EMPTY SEATS BUT THEY DON'T KNOW WE GOT
21 BACKUP! AND, GUESS WHAT, WE COMING AT THEM. SEE, YOU THINK WE
22 DON'T HAVE STRONG BLACK MEN BUT IT'S EVIDENT BY THE BROTHER
23 THAT WAS A MARINE. YOU KNOW, HE WAS IN CONTROL OF HIS EMOTIONS
24 BUT WE FEEL PASSIONATE. AFRICAN-AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE PASSIONATE
25 PEOPLE ABOUT THEIR CAUSES. DON'T BE MISGUIDED BY OUR EMOTIONS



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1 BECAUSE WE WILL PUT OUR MONEY AND OUR HARD-EARNED TIME BEHIND
2 SAVING KING DREW. SO, WHEN I CLOSE TONIGHT, I'M GOING TO LEAVE
3 THREE WORDS ON YOUR MIND SO WHEN YOU BE IN BED WITH THE WIFE
4 WHO SAYS, "WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?" SAY "I JUST CAN'T GET THESE
5 THREE WORDS OUT OF MY HEAD." SO YOU ALL HELP ME. SAVE KING
6 DREW. PUT IN OUT. LET THEM KNOW. SO THEN, YOU KNOW, WHEN THEY
7 GET READY TO VOTE TOMORROW, THEY SAY, "I GOT THESE THREE
8 WORDS, I GOT TO GO WITH MY CONSCIENCE AND I CAN'T VOTE THAT
9 WAY." GOD BLESS YOU. [APPLAUSE]

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** SYLVIA ARGUETA. GO AHEAD, SIR.

12

13 **GABRIEL ALVAREZ:** I'M GABRIEL ALVAREZ. GOOD EVENING, MR.
14 CHAIRMAN, DISTINGUISHED BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, JUST TO SEE
15 TODAY THAT YOU HAD TO COME OVER HERE AND I DON'T THINK YOU
16 WILL LIKE TO COME BACK AGAIN BUT YOU KNOW WHAT, YOU BETTER
17 TAKE IT SERIOUS. WE NEED THIS HOSPITAL, WE NEED THIS COLLEGE.
18 FROM HERE, THERE'S A LOT OF PROFESSIONALS THAT ARE GOING TO BE
19 IN YOUR SERVICE IN THE FUTURE FOR EVERYBODY. ONE OF THE THINGS
20 THAT YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER, I KNOW YOU HAVE A LOT OF POWER
21 WHERE YOU ARE RIGHT NOW. IF IT WAS A MEXICAN OR A BLACK RIGHT
22 HERE IN THE POSITION THAT SOMEBODY MAKES A DECISION IN CLOSING
23 THE TRAUMA CENTER, HE WILL NOT BE WORKING WITH YOU NO MORE.
24 YOU WILL HAVE KICKED HIM OUT A LONG TIME AGO. THERE'S ONE
25 THING I HAVE TO REMEMBER, ESPECIALLY RIGHT NOW THAT I HAVE



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1 SOMETHING TO TELL GLORIA MOLINA. GLORIA MOLINA, THANK YOU FOR
2 THE LIBRARY YOU PUT IN EAST L.A. AND I DON'T REMEMBER-- I
3 DON'T WANT TO FORGET THE TIME THAT WE INVITE YOU TO THE SCHOOL
4 IN WEST L.A. TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PARENTS AND TALK TO
5 THEM. I'M GABRIEL ALVAREZ, WHICH I HAVE SPENT 14 YEARS IN THE
6 SCHOOL DISTRICT, REPRESENTING THE PARENTS AND THE STUDENTS,
7 350,000 STUDENTS THAT I REPRESENT AT THAT TIME. ANOTHER THING--
8 - ANOTHER PERSON THAT I KNEW IN THE STATE WAS A GROUP OF
9 PARENTS THAT I WENT OVER THERE, TRIED TO GET THE STATE TO GIVE
10 US \$50 MILLION. AND YOU KNOW WHAT? WE WERE VERY LUCKY. WE WERE
11 VERY LUCKY THAT MAXINE WATERS WAS THERE. YES, BECAUSE OF HER,
12 WE WON THE \$50 MILLION TO BUY THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL. 400
13 STUDENTS THAT WERE GOING TO DIFFERENT AREAS, WAKING UP AT 5:00
14 IN THE MORNING AND SPENDING THREE HOURS IN THE BUS. SO I'M
15 VERY GRATEFUL BUT, AT THE SAME TIME, I'M NOT TOO AGREEABLE
16 WITH YOU, WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR US, WHICH THE MAJORITY RIGHT
17 NOW NEED THIS HOSPITAL. I'M TALKING ABOUT HISPANICS AND
18 MINORITIES RIGHT NOW. AND, RIGHT NOW, WE ALL NEED IT, AND
19 THAT'S SOMETHING THAT WE ARE DEPENDING ON IT BECAUSE YOU
20 SHOULD KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE THAT HAVE DIED BECAUSE IT'S NOT
21 TIME ENOUGH TO TAKE THEM TO ANOTHER HOSPITAL.

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. DO YOU WANT TO WRAP IT UP? YOUR
24 TIME'S UP.

25



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1 **GABRIEL ALVAREZ:** THE MINORITIES RIGHT NOW OVER HERE ARE USING
2 THIS HOSPITAL AND A LOT OF BABIES GROWING IN THIS AREA. SO
3 THINK IT OVER AND I HOPE YOU MAKE A GOOD DECISION AND I THANK
4 YOU, EVERYBODY.

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** LUZAR. I'D ASK ROSALIO MUNOZ TO JOIN US AS
9 WELL AS ELENA ACKEL. YES. IDENTIFY YOURSELF.

10

11 **LISA ALEXANDER:** YES. MY NAME IS LISA ALEXANDER AND, BEFORE YOU
12 START MY MINUTES, I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF I CAN GIVE MY
13 MINUTES TO THE DOCTOR. HE WAS NOT FINISHED.

14

15 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WHAT DOCTOR?

16

17 **LISA ALEXANDER:** DR. SMITH. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** HE ALREADY TESTIFIED.

20

21 **LISA ALEXANDER:** HE WASN'T FINISHED SO I WOULD...

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** HE ALREADY TESTIFIED. [INTERJECTIONS]

24



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1 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IF YOU WANT TO GIVE YOUR TWO MINUTES, GO
2 AHEAD.

3

4 **DR. ERNIE SMITH:** THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR KNABE. THE POINT THAT I
5 DIDN'T MAKE, AND I'M GOING TO READ IT SO I'LL BE BRIEF, THE
6 SUPERIOR COURT ISSUED AN INJUNCTION AGAINST ANY FURTHER CUTS
7 IN SERVICES AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER PRIOR TO YOUR BOARD'S
8 CONDUCTING A BEILENSEN HEARING. YET, PRIOR TO TODAY'S HEARING,
9 IN DEFIANCE AND CONTEMPT OF THE COURT'S ORDER, YOUR BOARD HAS
10 APPROVED A DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES CLOSURE OF SEVERAL
11 OTHER SERVICES AT KING DREW MED CENTER, MOST NOTABLY THE
12 GERIATRICS WARD 3-B AND NEONATOLOGY. WHAT IS MORE, IN 2002,
13 THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES, AS POINTED OUT,
14 VOTED OVERWHELMINGLY TO SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF BALLOT MEASURE
15 B AND TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING TRAUMA SERVICES OF KING DREW.
16 YET, PRIOR TO TODAY'S HEARING, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
17 SERVICES ALREADY INSTITUTED THE CLOSURE OF TRAUMA SERVICES AT
18 KING DREW. INDEED, POWER CORRUPTS AND ABSOLUTE POWER CORRUPTS
19 ABSOLUTELY. YOUR BOARD SHOULD KNOW THAT, IN THE CASE OF SMITH
20 VERSUS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, THE COURT
21 RULED THAT BULK NOTICES DO NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE
22 BEILENSEN ACT. IT DOES NOT TAKE A PRESCHOOL CHILD'S LEVEL OF
23 INTELLIGENCE TO DISCERN THAT THE NOTICE POSTED AT THE
24 BEILENSEN HEARING NOTICE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
25 RELATIVE TO THE CLOSURE OF TRAUMA SERVICES AT KING DREW IS NOT



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1 A LAWFUL NOTICE, THEREFORE, THE VERY HEARING YOUR BOARD IS
2 HEARING TODAY IS A FARCE AND FURTHER CORRUPTION. IN CLOSING, I
3 HAVE BEEN ASKED TO REMIND YOU THAT YOUR BOARD DIRECTED DR.
4 GARTHWAITE TO BRING TO THE BOARD, TO ADDRESS A PLAN, TO
5 ADDRESS A \$800 MILLION SHORTFALL IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
6 SERVICES BUDGET. IN 2002, WHAT HE PRESENTED TO YOUR BOARD WAS
7 THREE SCENARIOS, WHICH WE HAVE DEPICTED AS THREE CARD MONTE.
8 YOUR BOARD HAS ADMONISHED DR. GARTHWAITE AND WE TOLD YOU THAT
9 HE HAS CLANDESTINELY PLANNED TO CLOSE KING DREW MED CENTER'S
10 TRAUMA UNIT AND, IN DOING SO, THAT HE WAS STOKING THE FIRES OF
11 CIVIL UNREST. YOU NEED ALL OF THE TROOPS YOU HAVE FROM THE
12 CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD IN IRAQ. WE DO NOT NEED THE TROOPS
13 FROM THE NATIONAL GUARD IN THE STREETS OF SOUTH CENTRAL LOS
14 ANGELES. [APPLAUSE]

15

16 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. THANK YOU. OKAY. MA'AM, IF YOU'D
17 IDENTIFY YOURSELF, PLEASE.

18

19 **ALBERTENIA GRAY:** GOOD AFTERNOON. I'M NOT ON YOUR ROSTER THERE,
20 BUT MY NAME IS ALBERTENIA GRAY. I COME ON BEHALF, FIRST OF
21 ALL, ARE THERE ANY ATTORNEYS IN THE HOUSE? I COME ON BEHALF OF
22 YOUR _____, MY BROTHER, WHICH DIED IN '79 GOING TO
23 CEDARS SINAI. IT HAS TOUCHED MY HEART DEEPLY BECAUSE HE COULD
24 HAVE CAME FROM 1421, WEST 47TH STREET TO GET-- OKAY, TAKE THIS
25 SERIOUS! THIS IS MY LOVED ONE. IT ONLY LEAVES ME, JUST ME, MY



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1 BROTHER, MY LOVED ONE AND HE WAS SHOT BY THE L.A.P.D., HE WAS
2 SHOT IN THE ARM, THE BULLET RICOCHETED AND, HEY, THEY TOOK HIM
3 TO CEDARS. AND HOW LONG DID IT TAKE THEM TO GET THERE? THAT'S
4 WHAT HIT MY HEART. I KEPT SAYING, HOW LONG DID IT TAKE? I HURT
5 VERY BADLY BEHIND YOUR DECISIONS. EVERYBODY ELSE HAS CAME UP
6 AND TALKED AND I'M TELLING YOU ABOUT SOMETHING I FEEL, OKAY?
7 I'M TELLING YOU ABOUT WHAT I FEEL. HERE I AM, I'M STANDING
8 HERE, I'M GOING THROUGH CANCER TREATMENT RIGHT NOW MYSELF BUT
9 I'M STANDING HERE, I'VE BEEN HERE ALL DAY JUST TO SAY THIS
10 DOES NOT MAKE ANY SENSE WHATSOEVER. IN MY HEART, I TRIED TO
11 RATIONALIZE, MAYBE, JUST MAYBE I WAS WRONG. BUT WHEN I SAW IN
12 MY MIND THAT TRAFFIC, IN MY MIND, SEE, I'VE BEEN UP TO CEDARS,
13 I HAD A BROTHER THAT WENT TO CEDARS WHEN HE HAD CANCER AND I
14 THOUGHT ABOUT THE HOURS IT TOOK FOR ME TO GO BACK AND FORTH
15 EVERY DAY AND I THOUGHT ABOUT THE MINUTES THAT WAS TAKEN AWAY
16 FROM HIS LIFE WHERE HE COULD HAVE BEEN HERE POSSIBLY. I COULD
17 HAVE ACCEPTED HIS DEATH HERE BUT GOING ACROSS THE COUNTRY LIKE
18 THAT? NO WAY. NO WAY. THIS IS SAD. TODAY, I CALLED THE
19 CORONER'S OFFICE TO SEE WHEN HIS BODY WOULD BE RELEASED. THEN
20 I CAME HERE. I COULD NOT GET ANY INFORMATION. I CAME ON HERE
21 BECAUSE I KNEW IT WAS NECESSARY THAT I COME AND LET YOU KNOW,
22 THERE IS SOMEONE HURTING AND IT'S ME. IT'S ME. AND MY MOTHER.
23 MY OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS. WE'RE IN PAIN. WE'RE IN PAIN. AND I
24 WANT YOU TO KNOW, YOUR DECISIONS BRING ABOUT PAIN. THINK ABOUT
25 IT. [APPLAUSE]



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1

2 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE CONTINUES]

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ROSY WASHINGTON. ELIZABETH MCBRIDE, IF
5 YOU'D JOIN US. YES, MA'AM. IDENTIFY YOURSELF, PLEASE.

6

7 **SYLVIA ARGUETA:** GOOD EVENING, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. MY NAME IS
8 SYLVIA ARGUETA. I'M AN ATTORNEY WITH THE LEGAL AID FOUNDATION
9 OF LOS ANGELES. FOR 75 YEARS, THE LEGAL AID FOUNDATION OF LOS
10 ANGELES HAS BEEN PROVIDING CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME
11 PEOPLE IN METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES. WE WORK WITH LOW-INCOME
12 CLIENTS IN ACCESSING AND MAINTAINING HEALTHCARE BENEFITS. I
13 SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THOSE CLIENTS TODAY, THOSE CLIENTS WHO USE
14 KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER AND OTHER L.A. COUNTY HEALTHCARE
15 FACILITIES. THE ISSUE BEFORE YOU TODAY IS WHETHER OR NOT TO
16 CLOSE THE TRAUMA CENTER AT KING DREW. WE BELIEVE THE ISSUE
17 NEEDS TO BE REFRAMED AS FOLLOWS: HOW DO WE ENSURE THAT THIS
18 COMMUNITY IS PROVIDED WITH THE QUALITY MEDICAL CARE THAT WAS
19 ENVISIONED WHEN THIS HOSPITAL OPENED IN 1972? TODAY, ON BEHALF
20 OF THE LEGAL AID FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES AND THE HEALTH
21 CONSUMER CENTER OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, A PROJECT OF
22 NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, WE SUBMIT
23 THE FOLLOWING. WE SUBMIT DECLARATIONS FROM PEOPLE IN THIS
24 COMMUNITY, FROM PATIENTS WHO HAVE USED THE KING DREW MEDICAL
25 CENTER, FROM MANY DOCTORS WHO HAVE GIVEN US-- WHO HAVE GIVEN



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1 US THEIR TIME AND TOLD ABOUT MANY STORIES. IN THESE
2 DECLARATIONS, EVERYDAY PEOPLE FROM THIS COMMUNITIES ELOQUENTLY
3 TELL ABOUT HOW THEIR LIVES WERE SAVED BY THE EFFORTS OF THE
4 DOCTORS, NURSES, AND STAFF AT THE TRAUMA CENTER. YOU WILL READ
5 THE DECLARATION OF SCOTTIE GRAY, WHOSE NINE-YEAR-OLD NEPHEW
6 RAN INTO A GLASS DOOR, CAUSING HIS WHOLE FACE TO SPLIT OPEN.
7 HE WAS TAKEN TO THE TRAUMA CENTER BY CAR AND NOW, DUE TO
8 EFFORTS OF THOSE DOCTORS AND NURSES, HE BARELY HAS A HAIRLINE
9 SCAR. YOU WILL HEAR FROM DIANE KELLOGG, WHO TELLS OF HER SON,
10 JAMAL, WHO RAN INTO SECOND BASE HEADFIRST AND BROKE HIS NECK
11 AND SPINAL CORD. THE DOCTORS AT THE TRAUMA CENTER WERE ABLE TO
12 WORK ON HIM SO QUICKLY THAT HE IS NOW ABLE TO MOVE BETTER THAN
13 EVER IMAGINED AND HE NOW HAS A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE. YOU'LL
14 ALSO HEAR FROM DOROTHY LACEFIELD, TELLING OF HER GRANDSON,
15 DANDRE, WHO WAS SHOT TWICE IN THE BACK AND TWICE IN THE HEAD
16 BUT SURVIVED DUE TO BOTH THE WORK OF PARAMEDICS WHO DELIVERED
17 HIM QUICKLY TO KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER AND WHERE THE DOCTORS
18 SAVED HIS LIFE. THESE ARE BUT A FEW OF THE STORIES OF HOW KING
19 DREW TRAUMA CENTER AFFECTS THE DAILY LIVES OF RESIDENTS IN
20 THIS COMMUNITY. YOU WILL ALSO HEAR THE STORIES OF MANY OF THE
21 DOCTORS WHO WORK ON THESE PATIENTS. THEY ARE THE COMMITTEE OF
22 THE INTERNS AND RESIDENTS WHO SO GRACIOUSLY GAVE THEIR VOICE
23 AND LEND THEIR VOICES IN THOSE DECLARATIONS THAT WE'VE
24 SUBMITTED SO THAT YOU CAN TELL HOW IMPORTANT THIS TRAUMA
25 CENTER IS.



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1

2 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** CAN YOU IDENTIFY YOURSELF? IS PAT MCKOSKER
5 HERE?

6

7 **MISS WOODS:** GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS MISS WOODS. I SAID GOOD
8 EVENING, MY NAME IS MISS WOODS, I'M A COMMUNITY PERSON. I
9 SERVED AT MARTIN LUTHER KING FOR MANY YEARS AND I HAVE SEEN
10 THEM SAVE MORE THAN I HAVE SEEN THEM LOSE. I HAVE TWO
11 TESTIMONIES. I HAVE ONE OF MY NIECE. SHE HAD A BRAIN TUMOR. WE
12 TOOK HER TO MANY HOSPITALS: HOLLYWOOD PRESBYTERIAN, WE TOOK
13 HER TO OVER TO CEDARS SINAI, WE TOOK HER OVER TO KAISER, WE
14 TOOK HER NUMEROUS PLACES BUT THEY ONLY PICKED UP HERE WHERE
15 THEY HAD THAT BRAIN TUMOR AND THEY SAVED HERE. AND ANOTHER, MY
16 UNCLE, HE HAD PASSED OUT ON THE BUS. HE HAD A HEART ATTACK.
17 THEY BROUGHT HIM HERE TO THE TRAUMA UNIT. WE DIDN'T KNOW WHERE
18 HE WAS FOR THREE WEEKS. I'M WORKING DOWNSTAIRS AND I JUST BUMP
19 INTO HIM, I HEAR SOMEONE CALL OUT HIS NAME. I SAID, "WELL,
20 WAIT A MINUTE, THAT'S MY UNCLE." AND FOR THREE WEEKS, HE WAS
21 UP THERE. THEY SAVED HIM. AND WE WERE LOOKING FOR HIM. BUT I'M
22 GOING TO SAY THIS. WE'RE GOING TO PUSH, WE'RE GOING TO PRAY
23 UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS AND THEY CALL IT KILLER KING BUT THEY
24 KILLED OUR KING OH, SO MANY YEARS AGO, BUT HERE WRONG AGAIN
25 AND WE SHALL STAND ON PRAYER AND PRAYER ALONE BECAUSE YOU GUYS



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1 DON'T HAVE THE FINAL SAY. IT'S ALL UP TO HIM ABOVE. SO I'M
2 GOING TO LEAVE IT THERE AND I'M GOING TO ASK THAT EVERYBODY
3 PRAY UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS AND WE SHALL SEE VICTORY.

4

5 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. THANK YOU. YES, SIR.

6

7 **ROSALIO MUNOZ:** ROSALIO MUNOZ. I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF THE
8 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY USA. AND I
9 WANTED TO SAY-- BEGIN WITH, IN THIS COUNTRY, THERE'S
10 TREMENDOUS CONCERN ABOUT WHERE OUR COUNTRY IS GOING SINCE TWO
11 WEEKS-- THE VOTE ALMOST TWO WEEKS AGO. THERE'S 55 MILLION PLUS
12 PEOPLE REALLY WORRIED WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THE HEALTHCARE
13 OF PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY? AND PEOPLE MORE AND MORE AROUND
14 THIS COUNTRY ARE LOOKING TO THIS EFFORT HERE. THIS SECOND
15 WATTS REBELLION THAT'S ONE OF POLITICAL POWER, OF EMPOWERMENT,
16 NOT ONLY OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY, FOR THE UNINSURED
17 COMMUNITY AND EVERYBODY THAT NEEDS IMPROVED HEALTHCARE. AND
18 THAT'S HOW IT'S GOING TO BE LOOKED AT AND I HOPE YOU THINK
19 ABOUT THAT. IT'S GOING TO HAVE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS ALL
20 THROUGHOUT THIS COUNTY, THIS STATE AND THIS NATION. PEOPLE ARE
21 LOOKING HERE AND TAKE THAT RESPONSIBILITY. I WANTED TO SAY
22 THAT-- I HAVEN'T SPOKEN AT A BEILENSEN HEARING IN ABOUT 24, 25
23 YEARS, WHEN BOB WHITE WAS THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR AND WE HAD A
24 BEILENSEN ACT THAT YOU COULD REALLY CALL A BEILENSEN ACT. THIS
25 IS A B-B-B-B ACT BECAUSE IT DOESN'T GIVE YOU THE 90 DAYS



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1 NOTICE, IT GIVES YOU, LIKE, 14 DAYS NOTICE. IT DOESN'T GIVE
2 YOU 60 DAYS AFTER TO MAKE A DECISION, WHICH YOU DO THAT. IT
3 DOESN'T REQUIRE YOU FOLKS TO MAKE A FINDING THAT THERE IS NO
4 DETRIMENTAL IMPACT TO THE HEALTHCARE OF INDIGENTS. AND IT'S
5 PRETTY CLEAR, EVEN IF IT'S A .3% OR A .6%, THAT MEANS THERE'S
6 DETRIMENTAL IMPACT. WELL, THEY'VE GUTTED THE BEILENSEN ACT.
7 OKAY? BUT WE'RE STILL HERE AND WE NEED IT RESPECTED, BECAUSE
8 THIS IS-- IT'S THE HEALTHCARE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS
9 COMMUNITY THAT PEOPLE NEED TO REALLY LOOK AT. AND I SEE
10 YOU'RE-- IN A WAY, IT HEARTENS ME A LITTLE BIT BECAUSE WE'VE
11 BEEN HERE SUCH A LONG TIME, THAT I'M NOT SEEING ALL THE POKER
12 FACES, I'M SEEING A LITTLE BIT MORE APPRECIATION OF HUMOR AND
13 ALL OF THAT. BUT I'D LIKE TO SEE SOME REMORSE ABOUT WHAT
14 YOU'RE PUTTING THIS COMMUNITY THROUGH. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO
15 A POSITIVE OUTCOME OF THIS BUT WHAT WE'RE GOING THROUGH IN THE
16 COMMUNITY ON THIS IS EXCRUCIATING. AND WHERE IS THE REMORSE UP
17 HERE ON THIS STAGE? I DON'T QUITE SEE IT, I DON'T QUITE HEAR
18 IT. AND I THINK THAT MIGHT HELP THE PROCESS AND HELP YOUR OWN
19 THINKING PROCESSES. AND, FINALLY-- WELL, I THINK THAT...

20

21 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WRAP IT UP, PLEASE?

22

23 **ROSALIO MUNOZ:** WELL, I THINK I'VE FINISHED. THAT'S ENOUGH.

24

25 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]



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1

2 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** I'D ASK DR. GWENDOLYN HUBBARD TO JOIN US
3 AND DR. BRIAN HUBBARD. OKAY, GO AHEAD.

4

5 **ELENA ACKEL:** I'M ELENA ACKEL FROM THE LEGAL AID FOUNDATION OF
6 LOS ANGELES AND I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT DR. GARTHWAITE THINKS
7 THAT HE MADE A WELL-REASONED PLAN BUT THEN, WHEN I LOOK AT
8 WHAT THERE IS TO BACK IT UP THAT THE SUPERVISORS SAW, THERE
9 ISN'T MUCH THERE OTHER THAN THE SEPTEMBER 13TH LETTER AND THAT
10 SIMPLY ISN'T ENOUGH TO DO AWAY WITH THE TRAUMA CENTER AT
11 MARTIN LUTHER KING. THERE HAS TO BE MORE FACTS, MORE ANALYSIS,
12 MORE INDEPENDENT JUDGMENT FROM A THIRD PARTY TO MAKE THAT HUGE
13 STEP TO ELIMINATE THE MARTIN LUTHER KING TRAUMA CENTER. AND
14 ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE'VE TALKED ABOUT IS THAT TIME AND
15 DISTANCE AND THOSE TYPE OF THINGS BUT ALSO PART OF THE PURPOSE
16 OF MEASURE B WAS TO HAVE A TRAUMA SYSTEM SO, IF THERE WAS A
17 DISASTER, IF THERE WAS A MULTI-PARTY INCIDENT, THERE WOULD BE
18 A SYSTEM TO HANDLE THAT. IN THE PRESENT TRAUMA SYSTEM, THERE'S
19 ABSOLUTELY NO PLAY. AT COUNTY U.S.C., AT ANY GIVEN DAY, THERE
20 ARE 20 PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL THAT ARE
21 BOARDED IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM BECAUSE THERE'S NO SPACE FOR
22 THEM. NOW, IN THIS PARTICULAR INSTANCE, ONE OF THE PERSONS
23 THAT CAME TO SPEAK BEFORE THE-- MR. DIMELY'S COMMITTEE WAS
24 JUDY CHOU, WHO REPRESENTS PASADENA IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE.
25 SHE TALKED ABOUT HER FRIEND BEING HELICOPTERED TO MARTIN



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1 LUTHER KING FROM THE SANTA MONICA FARMERS MARKET WHEN A LOT OF
2 PEOPLE WERE INJURED. AND, IF WE ELIMINATE KING, WE WON'T HAVE
3 THAT TYPE OF BACKUP. AND I DON'T THINK THAT CALIFORNIA IS
4 GOING TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM BECAUSE, DURING THE MONTH OF
5 SEPTEMBER, WHEN THERE WAS INTERNAL PROBLEMS AT MARTIN LUTHER
6 KING, THEY WERE ON DIVERSION FOR A WHOLE WEEKEND: FRIDAY,
7 SATURDAY AND SUNDAY. BETWEEN 12:00 AT NIGHT SATURDAY AND 1:00
8 IN THE MORNING, 15 AMBULANCES WERE DIVERTED FROM MARTIN LUTHER
9 KING CAME TO COUNTY U.S.C. HOSPITAL. NOW, IT MAY BE THAT FIVE
10 OF THOSE COULD GO TO HARBOR, TO CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL AND THE
11 LIKE, BUT ALL 10 OF THEM COULD NOT GO THERE, THEY CAN'T ABSORB
12 THAT TYPE OF-- THEY CAN'T ABSORB THAT TYPE OF NUMBERS. AND,
13 LASTLY, I'D JUST LIKE TO SAY, I MEAN, ONE OF THE WHOLE
14 PURPOSES OF MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL AND CIVIL UNREST WAS,
15 I REMEMBER WHEN LEONARD DETTWIELER AND I'M OLD ENOUGH TO
16 REMEMBER, WAS ON THE WAY WITH HIS WIFE TO COUNTY U.S.C. WHEN
17 SHE WAS PREGNANT AND WAS SHOT AND THAT WAS ONE OF THE
18 MOTIVATING FORCES OF MARTIN LUTHER KING AND WE SHOULDN'T LET
19 IT GO SO EASILY. THANK YOU.

20

21 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, ELENA. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** MARY ANN RUSH, PLEASE JOIN US. YES, SIR.
24 IDENTIFY YOURSELF, PLEASE.

25



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1 **DELE AILEMEN:** MY NAME IS DELE. I THINK YOU CALLED ME EARLIER.
2 I REPRESENT TODAY INTERNATIONAL HEALTH FORUM FOR AFRICA AND I
3 WANT TO BEGIN BY SAYING THAT, ALTHOUGH THE ISSUE OF MARTIN
4 LUTHER KING CENTER COULD BE CONSIDERED BY SOME AS A LOCAL
5 ISSUE, IT IS ALSO INTERNATIONAL IN NATURE. PARTICULARLY, FOR
6 AFRICAN IMMIGRANTS IN CALIFORNIA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD,
7 THIS MEDICAL CENTER IS SEEN AS AN EDIFICE OF PRIDE AND THAT IS
8 WHY WE COMMEND THE EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY OF CONGRESSWOMAN,
9 MAXINE WATERS, FOR LEADING THIS FIGHT. BECAUSE IT IS NOT JUST
10 ABOUT THE CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA CENTER, IT IS THE NEED TO SAVE
11 THE WHOLE OF THIS HOSPITAL. THIS IS AN EDIFICE OF HISTORY AND
12 IT IS A SHAME THAT WE ARE HOLDING THIS SITTING THIS EVENING
13 TALKING ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF CLOSING ANY UNIT OF THIS
14 HOSPITAL. FOR A COMMUNITY THAT HAS COME THROUGH A LONG PERIOD
15 OF HISTORY, _____ MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS, YOU FIND THAT
16 BLACK WOMEN ARE SUFFERING THE MOST IN TERMS OF H.I.V./A.I.D.S.
17 AND ALTHOUGH THE HEAD CRISES CONFRONTING OUR COMMUNITY, THIS
18 IS NOT A MATTER THAT SHOULD EVEN BE ON THE AGENDA OF THIS
19 _____ SUPERVISORS _____. [APPLAUSE]

20

21 **DELE AILEMEN:** I WILL NOT ATTEMPT TO TAMPER WITH MY TIME BUT I
22 JUST WANT TO SAY THIS TO SUPERVISOR YVONNE, SHE IS NOT HERE
23 NOW, TO GLORIA MOLINA, BUT VERY, VERY MUCH IMPORTANTLY TO OUR
24 SISTER, MAXINE WATERS, THE HANDS OF HISTORY ARE ON YOUR
25 SHOULDERS. DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN. [APPLAUSE]



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1

2 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. IF DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS COULD
3 JOIN US, PLEASE. YES, SIR.

4

5 **PEDRO BAEZ:** YES, SIR. I'M PEDRO BAEZ AND I'M ON THE WITNESS
6 LIST TO TESTIFY AND I'D LIKE TO DO SO IF I MAY.

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** DID I CALL YOU?

9

10 **PEDRO BAEZ:** NO, YOU HAVEN'T, SIR, BUT I AM-- BUT I'D LIKE TO,
11 IF I MAY

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY, GO AHEAD.

14

15 **PEDRO BAEZ:** MY STORY WILL WILL TAKE ALL BUT A FEW MOMENTS.
16 WE'VE ALREADY HEARD FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMUNITY
17 ABOUT HOW THIS MEDICAL CENTER HAS HELPED AND SAVED THEIR
18 LIVES. AND RIGHT NOW WHAT I'M GOING TO TALK ABOUT IS NOT
19 REALLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THESE FOLKS HERE BECAUSE THEY
20 ALREADY KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO TALK ABOUT. IT'S FOR THE PEOPLE
21 WHO ARE LISTENING AND THE PEOPLE WHO ARE WATCHING. WE ALL HAVE
22 HEARD STORIES ABOUT 9/11 BUT WE ALSO HAVE TO REMEMBER, TOO,
23 7/4/2002. THAT THURSDAY, JULY THE 4TH, WAS A DAY THAT ALL OF
24 US IN L.A. WILL NEVER FORGET. IT WAS THE DAY THAT A GUNMAN AT
25 L.A.X. WENT AHEAD AND SHOT TWO ISRAELI TOURISTS COMING OFF OF



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1 EL AL AND, WITHOUT ANY HESITATION, WHEN IT CAME TO
2 TRANSPORTING THOSE PATIENTS TO THE HOSPITAL, IT WASN'T TO
3 CEDARS-SINAI THAT THEY WENT TO, THEY DIDN'T GO OVER TO THE
4 WEST SIDE, THEY WENT TO KING DREW BECAUSE THEY KNEW THAT THAT
5 WAS THE PLACE THAT THEY HAD TO GO TO IF THEY WERE GOING TO GET
6 THE CARE THAT WAS GOING TO SAVE THEIR LIVES AND TODAY THEY ARE
7 ALIVE! NOW, ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I DID AND THE CONGRESSWOMAN
8 DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS BUT HER FRIEND, WHO TESTIFIED VERY,
9 VERY ELOQUENTLY, ELAINE KNOWS ABOUT IT, BECAUSE I TALKED TO
10 HER ABOUT IT, I WENT AHEAD AND I COUNT-- AND I CONTACTED THE
11 ISRAELI CONSUL-GENERAL OF L.A. UNFORTUNATELY, I WAS UNABLE TO
12 GET A WRITTEN DECLARATION BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT THE
13 CHARTER, WHICH STATES THAT YOU CANNOT MAKE ANY TYPE OF MOVES
14 THAT WILL INFER THE APPEARANCE OF GETTING INVOLVED IN THE
15 INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE REGION THAT YOU ARE ASSIGNED TO.
16 HOWEVER, THE VICE CONSUL-GENERAL KNEW ALL ABOUT THIS AND
17 REGRETTED THAT HE COULD NOT SUPPLY US WITH A WRITTEN
18 DECLARATION, BECAUSE I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE HAD THAT
19 WRITTEN DECLARATION FOR YOU TO READ.

20
21 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. THANK YOU.

22
23 **PEDRO BAEZ:** BEFORE I-- JUST A MOMENT. BEFORE I GO, I WANT TO
24 SHARE SOMETHING WITH YOU. EVERY MORNING, AS I GET PREPARED TO
25 GO TO WORK, THE LAST THING THAT I PUT ON IS THIS MEDALLION



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1 THAT I WEAR AROUND MY NECK. YOU, ZEV, KNOW WHAT THIS IS. THIS,
2 MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, IS A HAIF. A HAIF MEANS TO LIFE.
3 EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT, WHEN WE BLESS THE WINE AT SHABBAT
4 SERVICES, WE SAY HAIF. TO LIFE. WE DO NOT GO AHEAD AND SAY "TO
5 DEATH." REMEMBER THAT WHEN YOU MAKE YOUR DECISION. THANK YOU.

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. YES, MA'AM. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE
10 CONTINUES]

11

12 **ROSY WASHINGTON:** MY NAME IS ROSY WASHINGTON, I'VE BEEN IN THE
13 COMMUNITY-- I GREW UP IN THIS COMMUNITY AND, NEEDLESS TO SAY,
14 I'M AGAINST THE CLOSURE OF THIS HOSPITAL. WELL, THE CLOSURE OF
15 THIS TRAUMA CENTER, WHICH WILL INEVITABLY LEAD TO THE CLOSURE
16 OF THIS HOSPITAL STEP BY STEP. BUT I WON'T TAKE A LONG TIME. I
17 JUST WANT TO ASK ONE QUESTION OF DR. GARTHWAITE. A COUPLE OF
18 YEARS AGO, WHEN YOU SET UP YOUR PHASE III PLANS, YOU CAME OVER
19 TO HARBOR HOSPITAL, HARBOR MEDICAL CENTER, AND YOU SAID THAT
20 HARBOR-- THERE WAS A CHOICE BETWEEN DOWNSIZING HARBOR OR
21 DOWNSIZING KING AND, JUST FOR POLITICAL REASONS, THEY DECIDED
22 TO DOWNSIZE HARBOR. I JUST WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU MEANT BY THAT
23 AT THE TIME, CONSIDERING YOU WERE SAYING THAT HARBOR WAS,
24 LIKE, THE STELLAR, THE STAR OF THE COMPLEX. I WANTED TO KNOW
25 EXACTLY WHAT YOU MEANT BY THAT, CONSIDERING THESE DIFFERENT



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1 AREAS THAT THESE HOSPITALS ARE PLACED IN. AT FIRST, YOU SAID
2 THAT IT WAS BECAUSE OF-- IT WAS BECAUSE THERE WERE MORE
3 HOSPITALS AND MORE TRAUMA CENTERS, MORE SERVICES IN THAT AREA.
4 AND, IN THIS AREA, THERE WAS NOT THAT MANY-- NO SERVICE AT
5 ALL. I JUST WANT TO KNOW, WHAT HAPPENED TO CHANGE YOUR MIND?
6 AND WHY IT WAS, IN YOUR ESTIMATION, JUST A POLITICAL DECISION?

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. I MEAN, I COULD CLARIFY THAT FOR
9 YOU. THE REASON IT CHANGED IN THE RECOMMENDATION WAS THE
10 RECOMMENDATION CAME OUT OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO CLOSE
11 RANCHO LOS AMIGOS. YES, SIR.

12

13 **DR. BRYAN HUBBARD:** HI. MY NAME IS DR. BRYAN HUBBARD, I'M ONE
14 OF THE TRAUMA SURGEONS HERE AT M.L.K. AND I'VE BEEN HERE FOR
15 THE LAST 12 YEARS, TAKING CARE OF PATIENTS WHO WOULD HAVE
16 RAPIDLY BLED TO DEATH IF THEY WEREN'T TRANSPORTED HERE
17 IMMEDIATELY. THE CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA CENTER WILL CAUSE
18 PATIENTS LIKE THIS TO SPEND THEIR LAST FEW MINUTES OF LIFE
19 BLEEDING TO DEATH IN THE BACK OF AN AMBULANCE. AND WE TRAUMA
20 SURGEONS SEE THE FIRSTHAND NEED FOR A TRAUMA CENTER IN THIS
21 VIOLENCE-PLAGUED COMMUNITY. MANY OF YOU MAY HAVE READ ABOUT A
22 PATIENT I TOOK CARE OF A COUPLE MONTHS AGO, LEROY EPWRITE, IN
23 THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, IN A VERY WELL DONE ARTICLE, A VERY
24 SURPRISINGLY WELL DONE ARTICLE, AND HE'S A LIVING EXAMPLE OF A
25 PATIENT WHO BENEFITED FROM RAPID TRANSPORT. IF THE TRAUMA



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1 CENTER WERE TO CLOSE, BECAUSE OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF GUNSHOT
2 WOUNDS THAT OCCUR IN THE IMMEDIATE RADIUS OF THE HOSPITAL, THE
3 MEDICAL CENTER WOULD STILL RECEIVE MANY PATIENTS WHO ARE
4 BLEEDING TO DEATH, MANY BROUGHT BY PRIVATE CAR AND AMBULANCE
5 BECAUSE OF PROXIMITY. THE DIFFERENCE WILL BE THAT THE COUNTY
6 AND D.H.S. WILL HAVE CRIPPLED OUR ABILITY TO BE ABLE TO SAVE
7 THESE PATIENTS BECAUSE THE TRAUMA CENTER IS SHUT DOWN AND
8 PEOPLE WILL DIE. I CHALLENGE EVERYBODY ON THIS PANEL, AND ALL
9 OF YOU SUPERVISORS, TO JOIN ME ONE NIGHT ON A TRAUMA CALL TO
10 SEE FIRSTHAND THE URGENCY WITH WHICH MY COMMUNITY NEEDS THIS
11 TRAUMA CENTER. AND I WANT YOU TO LOOK INTO THE EYES OF A
12 PATIENT THAT'S BLEEDING TO DEATH AND TELL THEM THAT THEY AND
13 THE COMMUNITY WILL BE BETTER SERVED IF THE TRAUMA CENTER IS
14 CLOSED. THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

15

16 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ASK THAT IDA BELL FOSSY JOIN US, LEE
17 RUSSELL, GLADYS RUSSELL, IF THEY'D JOIN US UP HERE IN THE
18 LINE, PLEASE. YES, SIR.

19

20 **RANDY SMITH:** OKAY. I'M RANDY SMITH. I AM A PATIENT. I AM
21 SKEPTICAL AND CRITICAL OF THE MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT. I TRY TO
22 STAY HEALTHY WITH ORGANIC FOOD, VITAMIN SUPPLEMENTS, EXERCISE,
23 USING ALTERNATIVE METHODS, GO TO DOCTORS AS A LAST RESORT. AS
24 A PATIENT, I'M A PAIN IN THE NECK. I ARGUE WITH DOCTORS, OFTEN
25 DON'T FOLLOW THEIR ADVICE AND HALF THE TIME I DON'T TAKE THE



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1 DRUGS THEY PRESCRIBE. THAT'S WHO I AM AND I THINK KING DREW IS
2 REALLY GOOD. I'VE HAD INNUMERABLE APPOINTMENTS THERE, BEEN
3 SEEN IN FIVE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS, HAD MANY TESTS AND A
4 NUMBER OF DIFFERENT PROCEDURES AND I WAS ADMITTED FOR TWO DAYS
5 FOR SURGERY. IN ALL MY EXPERIENCE THERE, I NEVER SAW ANY SIGNS
6 OF INCOMPETENCE OR NEGLIGENCE IN THE MEDICAL CARE. [APPLAUSE
7]

8

9 **RANDY SMITH:** THE DOCTORS ALL SEEMED TO KNOW THEIR STUFF, THEY
10 GAVE ME GOOD CARE AND I WISH I HAD SOMETIMES FOLLOWED THEIR
11 ADVICE MORE. ALL THE MEDICAL PERSONNEL, DOCTORS, NURSES AND
12 TECHS, ARE NICE PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT HELPING PATIENTS. FROM
13 EVERYTHING I'VE SEEN, I HAVE TO BELIEVE THAT THE BAD REPORTS
14 YOU HEAR ON THE MEDIA ARE ISOLATED CASES, THE EXCEPTION RATHER
15 THAN THE RULE, AND THAT THEY HAVE BEEN SOUGHT OUT TO DISCREDIT
16 KING DREW. KING DREW-- KING DREW HAS REALLY HELPED ME. IN
17 FACT, I WOULD HAVE LITERALLY DIED HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR THEIR
18 CARE AND I SEE PATIENTS OFTEN WHO ARE IN WORSE SHAPE THAN ME.
19 SO, KING DREW IS A REALLY GOOD THING AND NOW YOU'RE
20 CONSIDERING TAKING IT AWAY FROM US. IF NOT OUTRIGHT, THEN
21 PIECEMEAL. WHOA, IS THAT RIGHT? PLEASE, A LITTLE MORE...

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** IF YOU DON'T LISTEN TO YOUR DOCTOR, LISTEN
24 TO THE TIMER, PLEASE. THANK YOU.

25



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1 **RANDY SMITH:** PLEASE. PLEASE. I, I WAITED. PLEASE. YOU JUSTIFY
2 THIS ON THE BASIS OF PROBLEMS AT KING DREW. I SUSPECT MANY OF
3 THESE CHARGES ARE TRUMPED UP AND WHAT REAL PROBLEMS DO EXIST
4 ARE PERFECTLY UNDERSTANDABLE. IT'S A NATURAL CONSEQUENCE OF
5 INADEQUATE FUNDING.

6

7 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

8

9 **RANDY SMITH:** IF THERE ARE PROBLEMS, THEY'RE INADEQUATE
10 FUNDING. THE CORRECT RESPONSE IS TO INCREASE THE FUNDING, NOT
11 DECREASE IT. THAT SEEMS ELEMENTARY. BUT, REALLY, THE SITUATION
12 IS TRANSPARENT. IT'S CLEAR THAT WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS CREATING
13 A VICIOUS CYCLE, YOU REDUCE FUNDING AND, WHEN PROBLEMS OCCUR
14 AS A RESULT, YOU USE THOSE PROBLEMS TO JUSTIFY REDUCING IT
15 FURTHER.

16

17 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THANK YOU. YES,
18 MA'AM. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

19

20 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YOU CAN SUBMIT IT. SIR, SUBMIT IT. YOU CAN
21 SUBMIT THE WHOLE STATEMENT IN WRITING. FOR THE RECORD. YOU CAN
22 SUBMIT THE WHOLE STATEMENT IN WRITING FOR THE RECORD. YES,
23 MA'AM.

24



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1 **MARY ANN RUSH:** THANK YOU. GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS MARY ANN
2 RUSH.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** EXCUSE ME, BEFORE YOUR TIME STARTS, I'D ASK
5 THAT IDABELL FOSSY, LEE RUSSELL AND GLADYS RUSSELL. OKAY. YES,
6 MA'AM. SORRY.

7

8 **MARY ANN RUSH:** THAT'S OKAY. MY NAME IS MARY ANN RUSH, I AM AN
9 R.N. AND I LIVE IN AGOURA HILLS. I TRAVELED AN HOUR AND A HALF
10 TONIGHT TO GET HERE BECAUSE THIS IS NOT A LOCAL PROBLEM, THIS
11 IS AN L.A. COUNTY PROBLEM. I CONSIDER THIS MY PROBLEM. THAT'S
12 WHY I'M HERE TONIGHT. I'M AN R.N. AND I TOOK CARE OF PEOPLE IN
13 THEIR HOMES. MANY OF THEM WERE FALLING APART AND NEEDED TO BE
14 RUSHED RIGHT BACK. I DID TAKE CARE OF PATIENTS IN THIS AREA
15 WHEN I WAS IN HOME HEALTHCARE. KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER NEEDS
16 TO BE SAVED. IT IS NOW THE PATIENT. THIS HOSPITAL WILL SAVE
17 THE LIVES OF CHILDREN, PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, POLICE OFFICERS,
18 FIREMEN, OR EVEN PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS THAT ARE OUT WORKING IN
19 OUR SOCIETY. IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD A PERSON
20 LIVES IN BECAUSE WE ALL TRAVEL ON THE FREEWAY DAILY. A PERSON
21 FROM THE VALLEY CAN BE TRAVELING TO DISNEYLAND AND INJURED AND
22 NEED KING DREW. A PERSON ON A SCHOOL BUS WITH 36 STUDENTS CAN
23 BE TRAVELING TO ONE OF OUR LOCAL MUSEUMS AND BE IN A TERRIBLE
24 BUS ACCIDENT AND NEED KING DREW. THAT'S 38 PEOPLE NEEDING
25 CARE. 38 PEOPLE THAT DON'T NEED TO BE SCATTERED ABOUT, THEY



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1 NEED TO BE BROUGHT TO THE PLACE THAT CAN TAKE CARE OF THEM AND
2 TAKE CARE OF THEM QUICKLY. CARE NEEDS TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN
3 NINE TO 15 MINUTES OR DEATH WILL RESULT. NOT WON'T OR MIGHT,
4 IT WILL RESULT. CLOSING THIS TRAUMA CENTER TAKES AWAY THE HOPE
5 AND SAFETY OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS AREA. THIS AREA IS
6 DESPERATE FOR CARE. THE DOCTORS THAT ARE GOING TO IRAQ COME
7 HERE BECAUSE IT IS JUST LIKE A WAR ZONE. WITHOUT DREW
8 KING[SIC] TRAUMA CENTER, IT WILL BE A KILLING ZONE. THE LIFE
9 YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN. WE ALL DRIVE THESE ROADS, WE ALL
10 NEED IMMEDIATE CARE WHEN AN ACCIDENT OR A DISASTER LIKE AN
11 EARTHQUAKE OCCURS. PLEASE CONSIDER THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF
12 YOUR CITIZENS AND ALL THE TOURISTS THAT COME TO THE LOS
13 ANGELES AREA. USE THE DOLLARS FROM THE DOCTOR RELOCATION
14 PROGRAM TO BRING DOCTORS TO AREAS THAT ARE UNDERSERVICED AND
15 NEEDED. ALSO, PUT TOGETHER A ROSE PROGRAM SO THAT, EVERY TIME
16 WE BUY A ROSE AND PLANT IT IN OUR CITY PARKS, \$5 WILL GO TO
17 HELP SAVE THE TRAUMA CENTER. I'D BUY ONE.

18
19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. THANK YOU. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE
20]

21
22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** I'D ASK DANIEL TAYLOR, COACH CARR AND RUTH
23 DARBY TO JOIN US, PLEASE. YES, SIR.



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1 **MORRIS GRIFFIN:** I'M MORRIS GRIFFIN, BETTER KNOWN AS BIG MONEY
2 GRIFF, COMMUNITY ACTIVIST AND LEADER AND I STAND BEFORE YOU AS
3 NOT ONLY A SHOP STEWARD BUT I'M ALSO ON THE BARGAINING TABLE
4 TO THE CUSTODIANS THAT WORK FOR THE COUNTY. AND I JUST THINK
5 IT'S A SHAME AND A PITY THAT WE HAVE TO BE STANDING HERE
6 FIGHTING FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING. AS YOU ALL KNOW, THE TRAUMA
7 CENTER HAS TRAINED THE ARMY, THE NAVY, THE AIR FORCE, THE
8 MARINES. WE HAVE A LEGACY THAT NEEDS TO STAND. I'M ALSO THE
9 CHAIRPERSON AND FOUNDER OF A GROUP CALLED NCREW, WHICH IS THE
10 NATIONAL COALITION FOR REPARATIONS AND ECONOMIC WEALTH. WHY AM
11 I SAYING THAT? BECAUSE I THINK IT'S A DISSERVICE, IT'S
12 DISRESPECTFUL TO DISRESPECT DOCTOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, A CIVIL
13 RIGHTS MAN THAT HELPED EVERY MAN, WOMAN, CHILD IN THIS COUNTRY
14 AND HOW CAN I FORGET, CHARLES R. DREW, WHO DEALT WITH BLOOD
15 PLASMA. I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT WE ARE STANDING HERE FIGHTING TO
16 KEEP THIS TRAUMA CENTER OPEN. IT IS A SHAME AND A PITY THAT
17 YOU, KNABE, YOU, ZEV, YOU, ANTONOVICH, ARE NOT ON THE SAME
18 SIDE AS BOARD OF SUPERVISOR, YVONNE BRATHWAITE-BURKE. GLORIA
19 MOLINA, I'M EXPECTING BETTER FROM YOU. I'M EXPECTING BETTER
20 FROM YOU. [INTERJECTIONS]

21

22 **MORRIS GRIFFIN:** AND AS FOR YOU, GARTHWAITE, THREE YEARS, THREE
23 YEARS IT TOOK YOU TO GET US TO WHERE WE ARE AND NOW WE'RE
24 PAYING \$13 MILLION MORE. WE FEEL AS THOUGH YOU SET US UP BY
25 DISENFRANCHISING VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS IN OUR HOSPITAL. IT IS



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1 WRONG AND IT HAD TO GO DOWN THE WAY IT WENT DOWN. SO I ASK OF
2 YOU TO RESIGN. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ASK THAT LEWIS... [INTERJECTIONS]

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** LEWIS RILLO, FLORENCE ATKINS AND I BELIEVE
7 IT'S CHRISTINE KOUNDAKJIAN TO JOIN US. YES, MA'AM.

8

9 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** MY NAME IS DR. WILLIAMS. I'M ACTUALLY
10 HERE TO READ THE TESTIMONY OF DR. MARCELLE WILLOCK, WHOSE
11 MOTHER HAS JUST BEEN HOSPITALIZED AND SHE HAD TO LEAVE. AS YOU
12 KNOW, SHE'S THE DEAN OF OUR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE. BUT FIRST I
13 WANT TO SAY WHAT'S MOST DISTURBING TO ME, I'VE BEEN SITTING IN
14 THE BACK WATCHING AND OBSERVING AND THE EXPRESSION THAT I SEE
15 ON THE FACES OF THE MAJORITY YOU IS A FACE OF UNCONCERN. YOUR
16 MIND IS MADE UP. IRREGARDLESS OF WHAT WE DO, WE FEEL THAT YOU
17 ARE WASTING OUR TIME AND YOUR TIME. JUST BY OBSERVATION, I
18 THINK IT'S VERY DISTURBING. I'M AN EMERGENCY PHYSICIAN. I'VE
19 BEEN CERTIFIED AND RECERTIFIED. I'VE WORKED AT A LOT OF
20 PRIVATE HOSPITALS AND TO YOU, MR. YAROSLAVSKY, THE TRAUMA
21 SURGEONS AT CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL, ST. FRANCES, ST. MARY'S,
22 HARBOR GENERAL, THE MAJORITY OF THOSE SURGEONS WERE TRAINED AT
23 MARTIN LUTHER KING. SO, IF OUR SURGEONS ARE INCOMPETENT, THEN
24 THEIR SURGEONS ARE INCOMPETENT AND I THINK YOU OWE US, AS



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1 HEALTHCARE WORKERS AND EXCELLENT MEDICAL PROVIDERS-- MR.

2 YAROSLAVSKY, I'M SPEAKING TO YOU!

3

4 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** MA'AM, I'M TRYING TO VERIFY WHETHER THE
5 STATEMENT YOU JUST MADE IS ACCURATE OR NOT.

6

7 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** IT IS.

8

9 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** SO-- WELL, I KNOW YOU THINK IT IS.

10

11 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** IT IS. IT IS.

12

13 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** MAYBE IT DOESN'T MATTER TO YOU WHETHER IT'S
14 ACCURATE OR NOT BUT IT WOULD BE INTERESTING FOR ME TO KNOW.

15

16 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** IT IS ACCURATE. AND IF YOU CHECK THE
17 PHYSICIAN ROSTERS, YOU WILL SEE THAT THE MAJORITY OF THOSE
18 PHYSICIANS WERE TRAINED AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER AND I
19 DON'T DISRESPECT YOU AND I DON'T APPRECIATE YOU DISRESPECTING
20 ME AS BEING A DOUBLE BOARDED EMERGENCY PHYSICIAN. [

21 INTERJECTIONS]

22

23 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** AND WITH THAT, I DON'T THINK I'LL HAVE
24 THE OPPORTUNITY TO READ DR. WILLOCK'S STATEMENT AND I THINK
25 IT'S VERY DISTURBING... [INTERJECTIONS]



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1

2 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** ...VERY DISTURBING THAT YOU DISRESPECT ME
3 AS AN EDUCATED...

4

5 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** PLEASE, IF YOU'RE GOING TO READ THE
6 STATEMENT, READ THE STATEMENT.

7

8 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** ...BLACK WOMAN-- DO YOU WISH ME TO READ
9 IT? [INTERJECTIONS]

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** PLEASE. SO SHE CAN READ THE STATEMENT,
12 PLEASE. PLEASE QUIET DOWN SO WE CAN LISTEN.

13

14 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** MR. KNABE, I WILL READ THE STATEMENT BUT
15 LET THE RECORD SHOW THAT I DON'T LIKE... [INTERJECTIONS]

16

17 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** ...BEING DISRESPECTED AS AN EDUCATED
18 BLACK WOMAN. [APPLAUSE] [GAVEL] [WHISTLES]

19

20 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** DEAR SUPERVISORS-- THIS IS FROM DOCTOR
21 MARCELLE WILLOCK. DEAR SUPERVISORS, THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US
22 TO PRESENT OUR POINT OF VIEW IN THIS BEILENSEN HEARING. THE
23 CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA CENTER WILL ADVERSELY IMPACT THE
24 UNIVERSITY AND ITS PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL STUDENT TRAINING
25 PROGRAMS. WHEN THE MARTIN LUTHER KING HOSPITAL WAS



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1 ESTABLISHED, THE COUNTY ESTABLISHED A COMPACT WITH THE
2 UNIVERSITY. THEREFORE, WHENEVER THE COUNTY PLANS TO MAKE
3 CHANGES AT THE HOSPITAL, IT MUST NECESSARILY CONSULT WITH THE
4 UNIVERSITY AND TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE IMPACT ON THE
5 UNIVERSITY'S PROGRAMS. THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE WILL HAVE A
6 ACCREDITATION SITE VISIT IN JANUARY BY THE LIAISON COMMITTEE
7 OF MEDICAL EDUCATION, AND YOUR DECISION TO CLOSE THE TRAUMA
8 CENTER WILL MOST LIKELY HAVE A DIRECT NEGATIVE IMPACT ON OUR
9 ACCREDITATION, JUST AS THE FAILURE OF THE HOSPITAL TO LIVE UP
10 TO ITS SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES WITH THE RESIDENCY PROGRAMS HAD
11 A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON OUR INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION BY THE
12 A.C.G.M.E. LOS ANGELES COUNTY HAD A POPULATION OF 9.9 MILLION
13 AND 13 TRAUMA CENTERS, DOWN FROM 23 IN THE 1980S. IN 2002, NEW
14 YORK CITY HAD 17 TRAUMA CENTERS FOR A POPULATION OF 8 MILLION
15 WITH A DENSITY MUCH GREATER THAN LOS ANGELES. IN 2002, THE
16 MAIN NUMBER OF CASES NEW YORK CITY TRAUMA CENTERS HANDLED WAS
17 1,535 WITH A RANGE OF 1,021 TO 2,221. 7.9% OF THEIR CASES HAVE
18 A SURVEY SEVERITY SCORE, INJURY SEVERITY SCORE OF GREATER THAN
19 15 AND THE NUMBERS OF SUCH REALLY INJURED PATIENTS RANGE FROM
20 45 TO 179. COMPARE THOSE TO KING'S NUMBERS IN 2002. 2,723
21 CASES WITH 14%, OR 385 HAVING AN INJURY SEVERITY SCORE OF MORE
22 THAN 15. IN 2003, KING'S TRAUMA CASES WERE 2,149 WITH, AGAIN,
23 14%, OR 296 HAVING AN INJURY SEVERITY SCORE OF...

24

25 **SUP. MOLINA:** MA'AM, DO YOU WANT TO SUMMARIZE? YOUR TIME IS UP.



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1

2 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** ...MORE THAN 15. HOW CAN YOU EVEN
3 CONSIDER THAT THE COMMUNITY CAN DO WITHOUT THIS IMMEDIATE--
4 IMMEDIACY OF THE KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. THE L.A. TIMES...

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA:** MA'AM, DO YOU WANT TO SUMMARIZE? YOUR TIME IS UP.
7 [INTERJECTIONS]

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA:** SORRY.

10

11 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** THE L.A. TIMES RECENTLY...

12

13 **SUP. MOLINA:** YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR WRITTEN STATEMENT.

14

15 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** ...HAD AN ARTICLE BY PREPONDERANCE OF
16 TRAUMA SO THE L.A. TIMES IS THE ESSENCE IN GETTING A PATIENT
17 TO...

18

19 **SUP. MOLINA:** MA'AM.

20

21 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** ...THE TRAUMA CENTER.

22

23 **SUP. MOLINA:** NOW... [INTERJECTIONS]

24



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1 **SUP. MOLINA:** UNLESS YOU'RE NEXT. ARE YOU LUIS GARILLO? [
2 INTERJECTIONS]

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA:** MA'AM, YOUR TIME IS UP. [INTERJECTIONS]

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA:** WE HAVE RUTH DARBY, FLORENCE ATKINS... [
7 INTERJECTIONS]

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA:** MISS DARBY? PLEASE. YOUR TURN.

10

11 **RUTH DARBY:** YES, I REALLY HATE TO-- I SHOULD TAKE MY SEAT IF
12 YOU WON'T LET HER SPEAK. SO I'LL JUST LET HER TAKE MY TIME. [
13 APPLAUSE]

14

15 **SUP. MOLINA:** YOU'RE ON. [WHISTLES] [INTERJECTIONS]

16

17 **SUP. MOLINA:** CAN YOU START HER TIME AGAIN, PLEASE?

18

19 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** THE LOS ANGELES TIMES' RECENT ARTICLE BY
20 JILL LEDBY SHOWS THAT THE PREPONDERANCE OF TRAUMA SURROUNDS
21 THIS HOSPITAL, NO OTHER HOSPITAL BUT THIS HOSPITAL. TIME IS OF
22 THE ESSENCE IN GETTING PATIENTS TO A TRAUMA CENTER. IF DHS
23 CLOSES THE TRAUMA CENTER, UNDOUBTEDLY MANY OF THESE NURSES
24 WILL LEAVE OR BE REASSIGNED BY DHS TO WORK IN OTHER COUNTY
25 TRAUMA CENTERS SO THAT KING WILL NOT HAVE DECOMPRESSION.



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1 SIMILARLY, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES MAY REASSIGN SOME
2 OF THE SURGICAL PHYSICIANS AND FURTHER CONTRIBUTE TO THE
3 DEPLETION OF SERVICES AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. ALL OF
4 WHICH WILL BE IN VIOLATION OF THE COURT ORDER NOT TO REDUCE
5 SERVICES. WHY HAS THE CONDITION OF THE KING HOSPITAL BECOME SO
6 SEVERE? BECAUSE OF YEARS OF MISMANAGEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
7 HEALTH SERVICES, INTENSIFIED OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS WITH AN
8 EMPHASIS ON COST CUTTING AND NOT ON QUALITY OF CARE. IN
9 ADDITION TO THAT, AS DR. O'LEARY OF JCAHO STATED, THE LACK OF
10 PROPER OVERSIGHT BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ONLY COMPOUNDS
11 THE PROBLEM. AS YOU WILL RECALL, THE COURT RULED, ON JUNE
12 25TH, 2003, THAT THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES COULD GO FORWARD
13 WITH STAFFING REDUCTIONS AT KING DREW AND HEALTH CENTERS BUT
14 WAS NOT ALLOWED TO MAKE ANY SERVICE REDUCTIONS WITHOUT HOLDING
15 BEILENSEN HEARINGS, YET D.H.S. PROCEEDED TO MAKE SERVICE
16 REDUCTIONS AT KING DREW IN VIOLATION OF THE COURT ORDER. THE
17 REDUCTIONS IN NURSING WERE PARTICULARLY EGREGIOUS IN LIGHT OF
18 THE ACUITY OF THE ILLNESS OF OUR PATIENTS, THE VOLUME OF
19 TRAUMA AND THE IMPENDING CALIFORNIA NURSE/PATIENT RATIO LAW.
20 NURSES WERE CASCADED OUT OF KING IN THE EARLY 2003. THE THEN
21 C.E.O. FAILED TO AUTHORIZE THE HIRING OF 60 NURSES, WHO HAD
22 BEEN RECRUITED BY THE NURSING DIRECTOR FOR THE HOSPITAL.
23 APPALLED AT THE FAILURE TO ACT BOTH BY LOCAL LEADERSHIP IN
24 D.H.S., I WROTE DR. GARTHWAITE IN APRIL 2003 TELLING HIM IT
25 APPEARED D.H.S. WAS FACILITATING M.L.K.'S IMPLOSION AND THAT



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1 THE FOCUS NEEDED TO BE ON QUALITY CARE AND NOT JUST ON COST
2 CUTTING. RECOGNIZING THAT THE SHORTAGE OF NURSES WOULD IMPEDE
3 CARE, THE PHYSICIAN CHIEFS OFFERED TO HELP RECRUIT NURSES AND
4 THE UNIVERSITY...

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA:** YOUR TIME IS UP, MA'AM.

7

8 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** ...OFFICE TO RESPOND TO FOREIGN NURSES
9 JUST AS...

10

11 **SUP. MOLINA:** MA'AM, YOUR TWO MINUTES ARE UP, PLEASE.

12

13 **DR. JOANNE WILLIAMS:** ...BUT A LOT OF THESE OFFERS HAVE
14 RESULTED...

15

16 **SUP. MOLINA:** COULD WE HAVE FLORENCE ATKINS UP? FLORENCE
17 ATKINS? CHRISTINE... [AUDIO OFF THEN ON]

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** NOW, YOU CAN SUBMIT THAT-- YOU CAN SUBMIT
20 THE WRITTEN TESTIMONY.

21

22 **SUP. MOLINA:** CHARLES BRISTER BRISTER IS...

23

24 **SPEAKER:** NO. I HAVE A POINT OF INQUIRY.

25



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1 **SUP. MOLINA:** EXCUSE ME. LET ME JUST CALL UP SOME NAMES,
2 PLEASE? CHARLES BRISTER. CHARLES. THANK YOU, SIR. KATHERINE
3 LEWIS. MARGARET TOLMER. ROBERTA BRUNY, ROBERTA? UMASIA MORRIS-
4 GAF. THANK YOU, MA'AM. WENDY LIONS. BARBARA BUTLER. SHARON
5 ROGERS. LASTIER WILSON. MR. WILSON. ALL RIGHT. SORETTA BUTLER.
6 ARE YOU HERE, MISS BUTLER? MISS BUTLER? THANK YOU. JO ELLEN
7 SCHUMATTE. BRANDON JACKSON. YES, SIR. THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT.

8

9 **SPEAKER:** I HAVE A POINT OF INQUIRY. THE QUESTION IS, DO YOU
10 RECALL AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS HEARING WHEN CONGRESSWOMAN
11 WATERS STOOD UP AND ASKED IF YOU COULD EXTEND THIS HEARING SO
12 THAT YOU COULD HEAR FROM THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS? FOR FAR TOO
13 LONG, YOU HAVE ACTED UNACCOUNTABLE TO ANY OF THE COMMUNITY
14 MEMBERS HERE...

15

16 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** EXCUSE ME, MA'AM.

17

18 **SPEAKER:** ...AND TODAY, ANY TIMES FOR YOU TO HEAR WHAT THE
19 COMMUNITY MEMBERS HAVE TO SAY! PLEASE DO NOT CUT ANYBODY ELSE
20 OFF! PLEASE LISTEN AND IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE TIME TODAY,
21 PLEASE EXTEND IT UNTIL TOMORROW.

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE] [GAVEL]

24

25 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. THANK YOU.



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1

2 **GLADYS RUSSELL:** MY NAME IS GLADYS RUSSELL AND TO THE YOUNG MAN
3 THAT'S SITTING THERE, WHEN I YIELD MY TIME TO THE DOCTOR, I'D
4 LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR THAT. MRS. MOLINA, YOU'RE A VERY RUDE
5 PERSON. [INTERJECTIONS]

6

7 **GLADYS RUSSELL:** I MEAN NO DISRESPECT TO ANY OF YOU. YOU-- YOU--
8 - YOU ARE SITTING IN A SEAT AND EVERY ONE OF YOU UP THERE, OUR
9 TAX DOLLARS, THE TAX DOLLARS ARE PAYING YOUR WAGES. THESE
10 PEOPLE HERE AT THIS HOSPITAL-- I HAVE BEEN TO MARTIN LUTHER
11 KING. I'VE SAT IN THE ROOM AND SEEN THEM COME IN, THROWN ON
12 THE SIDEWALK, PEOPLE FROM THE STREETS. AS THEY SAY, ALL THE
13 THINGS BEEN DESCRIBED TO YOU, YOU STILL DON'T HAVE ANY
14 COMPASSION. YOU'RE TOO COLD! YOU GOT TO BE HUMBLER. MRS.
15 BRAITHWAITE, I WAS DOWN AT ONE OF THE MEETINGS AND I SPOKE
16 BEFORE YOU. I DON'T MEAN TO BE OFFENSIVE TO ANYBODY BUT THIS
17 IS AN IMPORTANT ISSUE HERE TODAY. IT'S ALREADY GETTING DARK
18 OUTSIDE BUT, BEFORE IT'S OVER, AND WHEN THE EARTHQUAKE STOPS
19 SHAKING, THE WINDOWS STOP FALLING, ONE OF YOUR KIDS OR MY
20 KIDS, OR GRANDKID NEEDS A DOCTOR OR NEEDS SOMETHING, THEY
21 AIN'T GOING TO TAKE TIME TO WORRY ABOUT NO DR. GARTHWAITE AND--
22 - NONE OF YOU UP THERE. YOU'RE GOING TO LOOK FOR SHELTER. AND,
23 BELIEVE ME, YOU SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOUR BOYS IN IRAQ. YOU
24 SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ALL THESE PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE
25 COUNTRY. YOUR TIME IS THESE PEOPLE'S TIME. AT LEAST LISTEN TO



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1 THEM, HEAR THEIR CRIES. THEY'RE TELLING YOU THE TRUTH. FACE
2 THE FACTS. THE FACTS HAVE BEEN PRESENTED TO YOU HERE. THEY
3 TOOK-- PEOPLE CAME FROM THE STATE. YOU'RE A LITTLE BUNCH OF
4 NOTHING COMPARED TO THE STATE. HEAR US. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE
5 RUDE. IF YOU DON'T LIKE WHAT WE SAY, AT LEAST KEEP QUIET. [
6 APPLAUSE]

7

8 **GLADYS RUSSELL:** NOW, I DON'T HAVE THE PH.D. THAT ERNIE SMITH
9 BACK THERE HAS BUT I WAS BORN WITH ONE: POVERTY, HUNGER,
10 DETERMINATION. AND WE FROM COMPTON, I LIVE IN COMPTON IN A
11 LITTLE SMALL THREE BEDROOM HOUSE, I'VE TOOK CARE OF 27 OF
12 SOMEBODY ELSE'S KIDS, TOOK A OLD MAN OFF THE STREETS, BROUGHT
13 HIM HERE TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, HALF THE FACE OPENED, PEOPLE
14 TURNED THEIR NOSE UP AT HIM. I BATHED HIM, TOOK CARE OF HIM
15 AND MARTIN LUTHER KING SAVED HIM. THEY EXTENDED HIS LIFE. HE'S
16 DEAD NOW BUT HE WENT HOME TO GLORY AND ONE THING HE LOVED, HE
17 LOVED MARTIN LUTHER KING. I LOVE MARTIN LUTHER KING AND I LOVE
18 ALL THE CITIZENS.

19

20 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

21

22 **GLADYS RUSSELL:** REGARDLESS TO WHAT COLOR YOU ARE OR WHO YOU
23 ARE, YOU'RE GOING TO NEED-- MARTIN LUTHER KING GOING TO SAVE
24 SOME OF YOU, JUST AS THEY SAID.

25



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1 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

2

3 **GLADYS RUSSELL:** ACCIDENTS HAPPEN. SIR, YOU CAN EXTEND THE
4 TIME, BUT I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO KNOW THAT I'M GOING TO BE
5 FIGHTING. I'M AN OLD LADY PUSHING 80 YEARS OLD, I'LL BE
6 FIGHTING, I'M GOING TO OUTLIVE SOME OF YOU UP THERE! [
7 APPLAUSE]

8

9 **GLADYS RUSSELL:** BECAUSE MARTIN LUTHER KING GOING TO BE SAVED.
10 [APPLAUSE]

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** I'D ASK... [APPLAUSE CONTINUES]

13

14 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ...RONALD, RONALD HAYDEN. IS RONALD HAYDEN
15 STILL HERE?

16

17 **MALE VOICE:** YEAH, HE'S PRESENT.

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** GERALDINE GORAM, SAMUEL GARDENER, JR. IS
20 SAMUEL HERE? THANK YOU, SIR. AND RHONDA? RHONDA? OKAY. YES,
21 SIR. GO AHEAD.

22

23 **LETHESTER WILSON:** YES. HELLO. MY NAME IS LETHESTER WILSON, THE
24 TRAUMA SUPERVISORS OVER AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER AT--
25 DURING THE 11-TO-7 SHIFT. I'M HERE BASICALLY BECAUSE I'M VERY



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1 INTERESTED IN WHAT'S GOING ON FOR THE TRAUMA CENTER FOR THE
2 FACT OF I LIKE TO TAKE CARE OF THE PEOPLE THAT I TAKE CARE OF.
3 I CAME ON ANOTHER OCCASION WHEN WE WERE DOWNTOWN AND WE SAT
4 BACK AND WE SPOKE ABOUT THIS SAME ISSUE AND, BASICALLY, THE
5 DEEP CONCERN IS TRANSLATED WHAT YOU SEE THE ACTIVITY OF THE
6 COMMUNITY HERE. ANY TIME YOU HAVE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO COME
7 HERE AND TELL YOU THEIR WORRIES, THEIR CONCERNS AND DISTRUST,
8 YOU KNOW DOGGONE WELL THAT BASICALLY SOMEBODY SHOULD LISTEN TO
9 THEM. THE DOCTORS HERE ARE TELLING THE TRUTH. I HAVE 32 YEARS'
10 EXPERIENCE AS A REGISTERED NURSE, TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE ALMOST
11 AT EVERY COUNTY HOSPITAL YOU CAN THINK OF AND A FEW PRIVATE
12 ONES. I PROBABLY HAVE MORE EXPERIENCE IN HOSPITAL SERVICE THAN
13 MR. GARTHWAITE SITTING UP THERE, AND I'M GOING TO SIT BACK AND
14 TELL YOU THIS RIGHT NOW. I LOOK AROUND HERE AND I SEE THESE
15 DOCTORS AND I SEE THESE NURSES, SOME OF THEM WERE MEDICAL
16 STUDENTS WHEN I WAS SITTING AROUND MANNING THE DESK AND
17 TRAINING THEM. SOME OF THEM WERE SITTING BACK HERE INTERNS
18 WHEN I WAS SITTING DOING. AND YOU SPEAK ABOUT CALIFORNIA
19 HOSPITAL. WELL, LET ME GIVE YOU A LITTLE SECRET ABOUT
20 CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL. CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL BASICALLY HAS SOME OF
21 THE FINEST DOCTORS IN THE WORLD THERE. THEY HAVE SOME OF THE
22 FINEST NURSES IN THE WORLD THERE, AND, GUESS WHAT, THEY WERE
23 TRAINED AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. WHEN YOU SIT BACK AND GO
24 INTO THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOSPITAL, WHEN YOU GO TO LONG BEACH
25 MEMORIAL AND JUST LIKE THE DOCTOR SAID IN WRITTEN STATEMENT,



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1 ST. FRANCES, CENTINELA, DANIEL FREEMAN, CEDARS-SINAI, ALL THE
2 LISTS AND LISTS, THEY OWE A LOT TO WHAT WENT ON ACROSS THE
3 STREET OVER THERE AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. IN MY LIFE, WE
4 SIT BACK AND WE CORRELATE SERVICES OVER THERE. I CAN TAKE A
5 PERSON WHO HAS SHOT ANY KIND OF WAY, ANY PLACE YOU CAN NAME,
6 HEAD, TORSO, STOMACH, LIMBS AND I GUARANTEE YOU, I CAN GET
7 THEM ON THE OPERATING TABLE FASTER THAN ALMOST ANYBODY BECAUSE
8 I WAS TAUGHT AT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. I WANT TO SIT BACK
9 AND TELL YOU ONE THING AND ONE THING HERE. I'M LOOKING AT MS.
10 MOLINA RIGHT THERE. I HAD A PATIENT WHO LOOKED JUST LIKE YOU.
11 SHE WAS SHOT IN THE ABDOMEN, SHE HAD A BABY, SHE WAS NINE
12 MONTHS' PREGNANT. WE SAT BACK AND MOBILIZED THE TEAM, WE HAD A
13 THREE COURT EFFORT, WE HAD NEUROSURGERY, GYN AND GENERAL
14 SURGERY. THAT LADY WAS SITTING BACK IN HER ROOM, SURGERY AND
15 IN HER ROOM WITHIN THAT DAY. SHE WALKED OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.
16 HER BABY WAS DELIVERED. I'VE HAD PATIENTS THAT LOOK LIKE YOU,
17 MISS BRATHWAITE-BURKE. THEY WERE SIT BACK, GENTLE LADIES, NICE
18 LADIES, SWEET LADIES, WHO SAT BACK AND WENT TO CHURCH AND A
19 BULLET CAME THROUGH THE CHURCH PEW AND SHOT HER IN THE HEAD.
20 YOU UNDERSTAND WE WORKED ALL NIGHT BUT WE SAVED HER. I'VE HAD
21 PEOPLE WHO LOOK LIKE YOU, SIR, THAT WE SAT BACK AND WE SAVED.
22 AND WHEN THIS GENTLEMAN, ZEV YAROSLAVSKY, SAT BACK AND TURNED
23 TO MR. GARTHWAITE, "IS THAT TRUE?" WELL, LET ME TELL YOU,
24 BECAUSE I'VE LIVED THE LIFE. IT IS TRUE. WHEN SHE TELLS YOU
25 THAT KING DREW TRAINS DOCTORS, WE'RE EVERYWHERE. [APPLAUSE]



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1

2 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. HAROLD GERON. IS HAROLD HERE?
3 FLOYD THOMPSON. IS FLOYD HERE. ALMA HOLLAND. IS ALMA HERE?
4 ANITA THOMAS. OKAY. YES, SIR. GO AHEAD.

5

6 **CHARLES BRISTER:** YES. CHARLES BRISTER, 1-800-UNITE-US. ALL YOU
7 GUYS ARE OLD ENOUGH TO REMEMBER MARTIN LUTHER KING. AND, IF
8 YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO REMEMBER MARTIN LUTHER KING, YOU'RE OLD
9 ENOUGH TO REMEMBER WHEN A LOT OF US IN THIS ROOM DIDN'T HAVE
10 OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, DIDN'T EVEN HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE,
11 COULDN'T EVEN GO TO THE NEAREST HOSPITAL, HAD TO GO TO A
12 HOSPITAL FURTHER AWAY BECAUSE OF RACIAL PREJUDICE. I DON'T
13 WANT TO GO BACK 40, 50 YEARS TO WHERE WE HAD TO GO TO A
14 HOSPITAL FURTHER AWAY. AND YOU GUYS SHOULD NOT MAKE THAT
15 DECISION. THERE'S TOO MANY LIVES AT STAKE. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE
16 WILL LOSE THEIR LIVES JUST BECAUSE OF THE EXTRA TRANSPORT
17 TIME. IT'S REALLY A COLD, COLD- BLOODED DECISION THAT YOU GUYS
18 ARE THINKING ABOUT MAKING AND IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE MADE. TALK
19 ABOUT MANAGEMENT, WELL, MAKE A GOOD MANAGEMENT DECISION AND
20 PUT THOSE LIVES FIRST. FULLY STAFF THE HOSPITAL. THAT SHOULD
21 BE NUMBER ONE. ZEV YAROSLAVSKY, ZEV, YOU MADE A STATEMENT
22 THURSDAY THAT I THINK SHOULD REALLY DISQUALIFY YOU FROM
23 PROCEEDING IN THIS CASE. WHAT YOU SAID ON THE NEWS WAS THAT
24 THERE WERE NO QUALIFIED DOCTORS OR NURSES. NONE. AND IT'S BEEN



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1 LIKE THAT FOR 40 YEARS. FOR YOU TO MAKE SUCH A BLANKET,
2 EXTREMELY BIASED STATEMENT SHOULD DISQUALIFY YOU.

3

4 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** THAT IS NOT A STATEMENT THAT I MADE.

5

6 **CHARLES BRISTER:** THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID. I SAW IT ON TELEVISION.

7

8 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** WELL, YOU GO GET ME THE QUOTE.

9

10 **CHARLES BRISTER:** I SAW YOU. WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU SAID? WHAT
11 DO YOU THINK YOU SAID? THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU SAID. YOU SAID
12 THERE WERE NONE. [GAVEL]

13

14 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** GO AHEAD AND FINISH YOUR TESTIMONY.

15

16 **CHARLES BRISTER:** OKAY. AND CONTINUING THE TESTIMONY, YOU NEED
17 TO OWN UP TO THAT BUT THE OTHER THING IS, TOO, IF MR.
18 GARTHWAITE RECOMMENDED THAT YOU GET A AMPUTATION, WOULDN'T YOU
19 WANT A SECOND OPINION? WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A THOUSAND LIVES.
20 NOT JUST ONE LIFE OR ONE AMPUTATION, HE'S TALKING ABOUT A
21 THOUSAND LIVES AND AMPUTATING THE TRAUMA CENTER. THAT'S NOT
22 RIGHT. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

23

24 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

25



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1 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. DEBORAH ALLEN. IS DEBORAH HERE?
2 TAYLOR MAYFIELD. NORM SWIRIN. I APOLOGIZE IF I-- OKAY. WILLIE
3 HOOD. RENEE RACHEL. OKAY. GO AHEAD.

4

5 **SYREETA BUTLER:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MY NAME IS SYREETA
6 BUTLER. I AM COMING FROM CAL STATE NORTHRIDGE. I AM A SENIOR
7 PSYCHOLOGY/PEN- AFRICAN STUDIES. I'M COMING TO YOU TODAY, THIS
8 EVENING, TONIGHT, AS THE 25-AND-UNDER GENERATION. WE HAVEN'T
9 BEEN REALLY REPRESENTED. THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF OLDER PEOPLE
10 HERE. SORRY. IT'S THE WAY IT IS. [LAUGHTER]

11

12 **SYREETA BUTLER:** BUT I WOULD LIKE TO LET YOU KNOW THAT OUR
13 VOICE NEEDS TO BE HEARD ALSO AND THAT WE DO HAVE A VOICE IN
14 WHAT GOES ON IN THE KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER AND THE TRAUMA
15 UNIT. I JUST WANT TO FIRST POINT OUT THAT, FROM A
16 PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECT, BY THIS TRAUMA CENTER BEING CLOSED, IT
17 WOULD DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD IN THE PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECT OF
18 AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND LATINO-AMERICANS THAT LIVE IN THESE
19 SURROUNDING AREAS. A LOT OF THEM ALREADY-- A LOT OF US,
20 LATINOS, BLACK, IT DOESN'T MATTER, IF YOU LIVE IN THE
21 COMMUNITY AND YOU ARE TREATED AT KING DREW, YOU ALREADY FEEL
22 THAT, BY BEING IN THIS COMMUNITY, YOU'RE NOT HEARD. THAT'S THE
23 PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECT OF DESTRUCTION AND YOU'RE ONLY CONTINUING
24 IT BY CLOSING THIS DOWN. SO I WOULD LIKE TO FIRST PUT THAT ON
25 YOUR MIND. WHEN YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL ON MAKING A DECISION



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1 THAT MIGHT START ANOTHER REVOLT, THAT MIGHT BE SOMETHING YOU
2 WANT TO THINK ABOUT. I KNOW YOU GUYS CAN DRIVE HOME TO THE SAN
3 FERNANDO VALLEY, THE ANTELOPE VALLEY AND DIFFERENT PLACES LIKE
4 THAT BUT THESE PEOPLE AND US, ME, WE HAVE TO STAY HERE. BUT WE
5 CAN COME TO YOUR COMMUNITIES, TOO, AND WE CAN REVOLT IN YOUR
6 COMMUNITIES. WHAT WOULD HAPPEN? WOULD WE BE PUSHED OUT? I
7 MEAN, WHAT DO YOU WANT? I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW THAT THE
8 KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER DOESN'T ONLY-- IT DOESN'T ONLY TREAT
9 GUNSHOT WOUNDS, STAB WOUNDS, OF GANG MEMBERS THAT DO DRIVE-BY
10 SHOOTINGS AND ALL THIS OTHER STUFF. THESE ARE PEOPLE THAT LIVE
11 IN THIS COMMUNITY THAT HAVE A STRAY BULLET HIT THEM, HIT THEIR
12 THREE-YEAR-OLD SON, DAUGHTER AND I'M SPEAKING TO YOU DIRECTLY,
13 I'M NOT EVEN GOING TO GIVE YOU ENOUGH RESPECT TO CALL YOU BY
14 YOUR LAST NAME, ZEV, BECAUSE YOU HAVE JUST DONE A DISSERVICE
15 BY PUTTING YOUR HANDS UP AND ALL THIS OTHER STUFF AND YOU
16 HAVEN'T GIVEN US ANY KIND OF RESPECT, SO I DON'T THINK I'M
17 GOING TO GIVE YOU...

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. THANK YOU.

20

21 **SYREETA BUTLER:** HOLD ON. I'M NOT DONE.

22

23 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WRAP IT UP.

24



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1 **SYREETA BUTLER:** OKAY. I'LL WRAP IT UP. I REALLY THINK THAT
2 IT'S FUNNY THAT PEOPLE HERE EXPECT DOCTORS AND NURSES TO
3 REALLY DO AN ADEQUATE JOB ON 14-HOUR SHIFTS AND 15-HOUR SHIFTS
4 GOING FOUR, FIVE DAYS TO A WEEK, BECAUSE YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE
5 UP FOR THE MONEY THAT THEY COULD HAVE GOTTEN IN THE PRIVATE
6 SECTOR. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT'S IMPORTANT. I THINK IT'S
7 REALLY FUNNY THAT, IF YOU WERE ASKED TO DO YOUR JOB FOR LESS
8 PAY, I'M REALLY, REALLY SURE THAT YOU PROBABLY WOULD TURN THE
9 OTHER CHEEK AND SAY, "I'M NOT." SO I DON'T THINK THAT IT'S
10 RIGHT FOR PEOPLE TO SAY THAT NURSES AND DOCTORS AREN'T DOING A
11 ADEQUATE JOB BECAUSE THEY'RE TOLD THAT THEY HAVE TO DO 14, 15
12 HOURS TO SUPPORT THEIR FAMILY WHEN PHYSICIANS LIKE DR.
13 GARTHWAITE...

14

15 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. THANK YOU.

16

17 **SYREETA BUTLER:** I'M NOT DONE.

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YOU TOLD ME YOU WERE GOING TO WRAP IT UP. I
20 KNOW YOU'RE PROBABLY NOT DONE BUT PLEASE I'M TRYING TO BE
21 FAIR.

22

23 **SYREETA BUTLER:** SO I THINK THAT IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT FOR ALL
24 OF YOU AND ALL OF US TO REALLY SIT BACK AND WONDER, WHAT IS



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1 THE PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECT OF WHAT YOUR POSITIONS ARE GOING TO
2 DO TO THE COMMUNITY THAT WE LIVE IN AS A WHOLE?

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YES, SIR.

7

8 **BRANDON JACKSON:** HOW'S IT GOING TONIGHT? MY NAME IS BRANDON
9 JACKSON AND I WOULD FIRST LIKE TO START OFF BY SAYING I'M A
10 VERY PROUD PATIENT OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, I'M VERY PROUD OF
11 IT. [APPLAUSE]

12

13 **BRANDON JACKSON:** ANY TIME [INDISCERNIBLE] EXEMPLARY SERVICE,
14 RESPECT AND DIGNITY, YOU KNOW, BUT I'M NOT GOING TO STAND UP
15 HERE AND KEEP ON SAYING, WELL, WE SHOULD KEEP IT OPEN, AND WHY
16 AND EVERYTHING BECAUSE YOU GUYS ALREADY HEARD ALL OF THAT. IF
17 THE COMPELLING STORY OF ALL THESE PEOPLE ARE ALL MOVED-- THEN
18 YOU GUYS AREN'T HUMAN. SO I'M NOT GOING TO SIT HERE AND STAND
19 UP HERE AND SAY, OKAY, YOU GUYS SHOULD KEEP IT OPEN. BECAUSE
20 YOU GUYS HAVE HEARD HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF CASES ALREADY
21 THIS WHOLE DAY. SO YOU GUYS SHOULD JUST-- YOU KNOW WHAT I'M
22 SAYING, JUST KEEP IT OPEN, YOU KNOW? IF YOU'RE HUMAN, YOU
23 WOULD KEEP IT OPEN. AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK OR SHOW
24 APPRECIATION TO YVONNE BRATHWAITE-BURKE, GLORIA MOLINA, MAXINE



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1 WATERS, NATE HOLDEN, EVERYBODY THAT PUT AN EFFORT INTO KEEP IN
2 THIS HOSPITAL OPEN.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY.

5

6 **BRANDON JACKSON:** SO, I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY, I APOLOGIZE.

7

8 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. NO PROBLEM. THANK YOU. YES,
9 MA'AM. [APPLAUSE]

10

11 **UMASIA MORRIS-GAF:** NOT MOLINA. GOOD EVENING, MEMBERS OF THE
12 BOARD. THIS IS A PERSONAL ISSUE FOR ME...

13

14 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** SHHH.

15

16 **UMASIA MORRIS-GAF:** I'M HERE BECAUSE, IN 2002, I WAS SAVED AT
17 KING. I WAS SAVED IN THE E.R. BY A VERY COMPETENT E.R. STAFF
18 AND WHAT I WANT TO SAY IS THAT, WHEN I ARRIVED IN CRITICAL
19 CONDITION IN THE E.R. ROOM, I DID NOT HAVE TO COMPETE FOR
20 SERVICES WITH TRAUMA PATIENTS. THE TRAUMA PATIENTS WERE IN THE
21 TRAUMA SECTION, WHICH MEANT I WAS NOT BUMPED BEHIND OR HAVE TO
22 WAIT ON THE TRAUMA PATIENTS WHO TAKE PRIORITY WHEN THEY COME
23 IN. AND MAKE NO MISTAKE, YOU'VE HEARD IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN
24 THAT WE, IN THIS COMMUNITY, MAYBE NOT YOU ALL, WE GO TO THE
25 NEAREST PLACE WHERE WE CAN RECEIVE SERVICES. AND, FOR ME, IT



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1 WAS KING. NOW, THERE ARE A COUPLE OF THINGS THAT I'VE HEARD
2 THIS EVENING. ONE WAS ON THE IMPACT OF PATIENTS WHO HAVE TO BE
3 TRANSPORTED FURTHER DISTANCE TO RECEIVE TREATMENT. WHAT I WANT
4 TO ALSO BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION IS THAT THOSE AMBULANCES,
5 THOSE PARAMEDICS ARE GOING TO BE FURTHER FROM THE NEXT
6 PATIENT, THE NEXT CALL IS GOING TO ALSO BE EXTENDED BY
7 PRECIOUS MOMENTS. YOU MIGHT NOT GET THEM, EITHER. [APPLAUSE]

8

9 **UMASIA MORRIS-GAF:** AND ONE MORE THING. TO DR. GARTHWAITE, IT'S
10 KIND OF HARD FOR ME TO BELIEVE THAT YOU COULD FIND ADEQUATE
11 PERSONNEL FOR L.A. U.S.C.-- I MEAN L.A. COUNTY-- COUNTY U.S.C.
12 IT'S KIND OF HARD FOR ME TO BELIEVE THAT YOU CAN STAFF
13 U.C.L.A. HARBOR ADEQUATELY BUT, IN THE ENTIRE WORLD, YOU CAN'T
14 FIND COMPETENT MANAGEMENT FOR OUR HOSPITAL. YOU CAN'T FIND
15 COMPETENT MANAGEMENT FOR US BLACK FOLK AND LATINO FOLKS WHO
16 USE THE SERVICES AT KING. OKAY. IF YOU CAN'T, WELL, THEN, MR.
17 GARTHWAITE, PLEASE RESIGN.

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

20

21 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** MARTIN ESTELLE. PARDON ME? MARTIN ESTELLE
22 HERE? CAROLYN FOWLER, CAROLYN, ARE YOU HERE? THANK YOU. JOIN
23 US. TERRY LEEWAY. MAXWELL RUSSELL. OKAY. YES, SIR. GO AHEAD.

24



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1 **RONALD HAYDEN:** HOW YOU DOING? MY NAME IS RONALD HAYDEN AND I'M
2 A FORMER GANG MEMBER, GREW UP RIGHT HERE IN COMPTON, AS A
3 MATTER OF FACT, RIGHT ON 118TH AND COMPTON AVENUE WHICH IS A
4 COUPLE OF BLOCKS FROM HERE. AND, YOU KNOW, I JUST CAME TO
5 REALLY SPEAK TO THE COMMUNITY BECAUSE, BASICALLY, I KNOW THAT
6 OUR ANCESTORS, INCLUDING MARTIN LUTHER KING, ARE PROBABLY
7 TURNING OVER IN THEIR GRAVES AT THE WAY THAT YOUNG MEN LIKE
8 MYSELF, YOU KNOW, KILL EACH OTHER OVER OUR COLOR AND I DON'T
9 KNOW HOW MANY FORMER GANG MEMBERS OR GANG MEMBERS ARE HERE
10 TODAY BUT I THINK, BY WHAT WE SEE HERE TODAY, IT'S OBVIOUS
11 THAT WE NEED TO COME TOGETHER AND STOP KILLING EACH OTHER
12 BECAUSE THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD DON'T SEEM TO CARE AT ALL
13 BASED ON THEIR DEMEANOR. I LOST A COUSIN, MY FIRST COUSIN,
14 BILLY WASHINGTON, WHO WAS SHOT, LIKE, NINE TIMES WITH A NINE
15 MILLIMETER RIGHT HERE ON 126TH AND WILLOWBROOK AND HIS LIFE
16 WAS SAVED AT FIRST BECAUSE HE WAS RUSHED TO MARTIN LUTHER KING
17 HOSPITAL. JUST MAYBE ABOUT A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO RIGHT HERE ON
18 WILMINGTON, MY COUSIN, KIKI, AND HER BOYFRIEND WAS GUNNED DOWN
19 AT AN APARTMENT BUILDING. AND THEY DIDN'T MAKE IT, EVEN THOUGH
20 THEY WERE RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE HOSPITAL. SO MY
21 POINT IS, IT'S OBVIOUS, BASED ON ALL THE INFORMATION AND THE
22 FACTS THAT HAS BEEN SHARED WITH Y'ALL, THAT IT WOULD BE VERY
23 NEGLIGENT TO THE COMMUNITY FOR YOU TO CLOSE THE TRAUMA CENTER
24 AND IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF YOU COULD SHOW YOU MORE
25 PASSION AND RESPECT FOR THE COMMUNITY BECAUSE, REALLY, YOU'RE



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1 SITTING UP THERE MAKING FACES, EATING PILE OF SEEDS, DRINKING
2 YOUR WATER AND IT SEEMS LIKE YOU COULD CARE LESS BUT YOU'VE
3 HEARD ALL THIS BEFORE AND I REALLY HOPE THAT THE COMMUNITY HAS
4 SPOKE TO YOUR CONSCIOUS BECAUSE GOD WILL HOLD YOU ACCOUNTABLE.
5 THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

6

7 **SAMUEL GARDENER, JR.:** YES. MY NAME IS SAMUEL GARDENER, JR.,
8 AND I'M A GUNSHOT VICTIM SURVIVOR. I WAS SHOT APRIL THE 10TH
9 AND, BECAUSE MARTIN LUTHER KING'S TRAUMA CENTER WAS OPEN, I'M
10 HERE TODAY TO SPEAK TO YOU. YOU KNOW, IT'S A SHAME THAT, RIGHT
11 NOW, I HAVE TO FEEL THAT I AM GLAD THAT I WAS SHOT IN APRIL
12 INSTEAD OF LAST NIGHT BECAUSE, IF IT HAD HAVE BEEN LAST NIGHT,
13 I WOULDN'T BE HERE TODAY. I WOULD HAVE DIED. [APPLAUSE]

14

15 **SAMUEL GARDENER, JR.:** MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT, YOU KNOW, WE
16 PAY TAXES HERE. OUR TAX DOLLARS GO TOWARDS KEEPING THE
17 HOSPITAL IN OUR COMMUNITY OPEN BUT THEY'RE BEING DIVERTED TO
18 OTHER HOSPITALS IN OTHER AREAS. I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THIS. MY
19 UNDERSTANDING IS THAT, OVER AT KING DREW, THERE'S A UNDER
20 STAFF PROBLEM, THERE'S A UNDERPAID PROBLEM, THERE'S A OVERWORK
21 PROBLEM AND THERE'S A PROBLEM OF GETTING CREDIT FOR ALL THE
22 HARD WORK THAT'S PUT IN AT KING DREW. WHEN I WAS THERE, I WAS
23 TAKEN CARE OF. MY FAMILY WAS CONSOLED AND THEY WERE LET KNOW
24 THAT I WOULD BE OKAY. YOU KNOW, WHEN IT COMES UP FOR ELECTION,
25 NONE OF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM IN COMING TO US, ASKING US FOR OUR



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1 VOTE AND YOU KNOW WE GIVE YOU OUR VOTES BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IN
2 YOU. NOW WE WANT YOU TO BELIEVE IN US AND YOUR VOTES ARE
3 REQUIRED FOR US, SO LET US SEE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT US. YOU SEE
4 WE CARE ABOUT EACH OTHER BUT OUR CONCERN IS, DO YOU CARE ABOUT
5 US? DO YOU REALLY GIVE A DAMN, AND EXCUSE MY FRENCH, DO YOU
6 REALLY CARE WHETHER OR NOT WE LIVE OR DIE? WE'LL KNOW IN A FEW
7 DAYS AND YOU'LL KNOW AT ELECTION TIME. THANK YOU.

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** ROBERT COLE. IS ROBERT COLE HERE? JOIN US
12 IN THE LINE PLEASE. YES, MA'AM.

13

14 **RHONDA GARDENER:** HI, MY NAME IS RHONDA GARDNER. I'M USING THIS
15 ADDRESS BY MY HUSBAND, SAMUEL GARDENER AND WE'VE HEARD A LOT
16 ABOUT THE VICTIMS BUT NO ONE TALKS ABOUT THE CARE THAT THE
17 HOSPITAL GAVE TO THE FAMILY. WHEN HE FIRST WAS SHOT, HE WAS
18 NOT IN A GANG, HE TAKES CARE OF HIS FAMILY, HE WAS SHOT IN OUR
19 HOME. WHEN HE FIRST WAS SHOT, THE FIRST THING THE AMBULANCE
20 DRIVER SAID, "WHERE ARE WE GOING TO TAKE HIM?" THEY SAID, "THE
21 BEST PLACE TO TAKE HIM THAT HAS THE BEST CARE WAS KING DREW."
22 HE WAS SHOT IN THE CHEST. THEY HAD TO STICK TUBES TO KEEP HIS
23 LUNGS FROM FILLING UP WITH BLOOD. THEY CONSOLED NOT ONLY HIM
24 BUT THEY TOOK CARE OF US, THE NURSES, THE DOCTORS, THAT WE
25 WERE INFORMED ON HIS CONDITION. IT WAS A OUTSTANDING JOB. I



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1 APPRECIATE KING DREW. I APPRECIATE THE DOCTORS BECAUSE KING
2 DREW IS THE HEART OF THIS COMMUNITY. THE HEART OF THIS
3 COMMUNITY KEPT MY HEART HERE. MY HEART IS SAMUEL GARDENER, JR.
4 [APPLAUSE]

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. YES, SIR. BEFORE YOU START, R.W.
7 AKILE. IS R.W. HERE? IS R.W. HERE? OKAY.

8

9 **CHRISTINE KOUNDAKJIAN:** I'M YIELDING MY TIME TO DEREK EVANS. HE
10 WORKS IN THE PHARMACY...

11

12 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YOU ALREADY TESTIFIED.

13

14 **CHRISTINE KOUNDAKJIAN:** I TOOK DR. SAVAGE'S TIME TIME BUT NOW
15 I'M YIELDING MY OTHER TWO MINUTES TO HIM.

16

17 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YOU CAN'T DO IT BUT HE'S SIGNED UP SO HE'S
18 OKAY.

19

20 **CHRISTINE KOUNDAKJIAN:** HE WASN'T SIGNED UP.

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YEAH, HE WAS. HE WAS SIGNED UP. YES, SIR.
23 GO AHEAD.

24



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1 **DERRICK EVANS:** MY NAME IS DERRICK EVANS. I AM A EMPLOYEE AT
2 KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER, I WORK SPECIFICALLY IN TRAUMA
3 PHARMACY. I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF THE INCOMPETENT STAFF THAT,
4 SINCE 1998, RESOURCES ARE BEING CUT AND A LOT OF US HAS BEEN
5 WORKING SIX, SEVEN, EVEN SOMETIMES EIGHT DAYS IN A ROW, EIGHT-
6 HOUR SHIFTS, NURSES DOING 16S, DOCTORS DOING 24, THREE, FOUR
7 DAYS. AND I'M PART OF 660, I'M A STEWARD. WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO
8 SAY TODAY IS I'M A LITTLE UPSET ABOUT ONE THING. IN A
9 PROCEEDINGS OF 2003, WHEN WE WERE AT THE TABLE TALKING ABOUT
10 THESE REDUCTIONS IN THE STAFF AND HOW WE WERE-- WE HAD SOME
11 DEFICIENCIES, WE WERE TOLD THAT WE HAD TO CUT STAFF AND WE
12 KNOW THAT, OUT OF 770 THAT WERE EITHER LAID OFF, TRANSFERRED
13 TO CASCADE AND THE COUNTY, 440 OF THOSE POSITIONS CAME FROM
14 KING AND WE ALL KNOW WHAT HAPPENED ONCE THAT 440 POSITIONS WAS
15 RELEASED. WE ARE IN THE POSITION WE ARE IN TODAY. BUT SOMEONE
16 DROPPED A ARTICLE IN MY LAP TODAY FROM THE MANAGEMENT
17 HEALTHCARE EXECUTIVE EDITION, JUNE OF 2004. IN THAT SPECIFIC
18 ISSUE, THE COLLEGE, WHICH IS THE COLLEGE OF TEACHING
19 HOSPITALS, DID A SURVEY OF THE 10 BEST TEACHING FACILITIES IN
20 THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE NUMBER ONE TEACHING HOSPITAL
21 IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ACCORDING TO THE JUNE 24
22 EDITION OF THIS MAGAZINE, WHICH IS A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED
23 MAGAZINE, WAS L.A.C. KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER. [APPLAUSE]
24



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1 **DERRICK EVANS:** ALSO AND I'M JUST ABOUT DONE, WE GOT SOME
2 INFORMATION FROM A REPORT FROM C.M.S. FOR 2003 AND I'D LIKE TO
3 AGAIN TELL THE COMMUNITY THAT 440 PHYSICIANS WERE TAKEN FROM
4 US IN 2003. THAT REPORT FROM C.M.S. STATED, AND THE FIGURES,
5 I'M GOING TO ROUND OFF, THAT KING DREW MEDICAL CENTER PROFIT
6 MARGIN WAS 36.9% AND THAT WE MADE A REVENUE OF \$632 MILLION IN
7 THE YEAR 2003. I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW, HOW IS IT THAT, TODAY,
8 WE'RE STANDING IN A POSITION TO CLOSE A TRAUMA CENTER WHICH
9 C.M.S. AND J.C.A.H.O. DID NOT RECOGNIZE ANY MAJOR
10 EFFICIENCIES, WHEN WE HAVE NO NURSING CONTRACT, WHEN WE HAVE
11 NO PHARMACIST CONTRACT, AND WE'RE TALKING ABOUT CLOSING
12 SOMETHING THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH SAVING THE HOSPITAL.
13 WHAT WE NEED IN THE HOSPITAL WAS STAFF. WE CANNOT HAVE
14 EMERGENCY ROOM PATIENTS SITTING IN OUR E.R. FOR TWO AND THREE
15 WEEKS BECAUSE WE HAVE NO I.C.U. BEDS, BECAUSE WE HAVE BEDS
16 AVAILABLE BUT NO NURSES TO OPEN THOSE BEDS.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

19

20 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YES, MA'AM.

21

22 **PATRICIA VICTORY:** HI. MY NAME IS PATRICIA VICTORY, AND I'M IN
23 THE WATTS NEIGHBORHOOD AND I'VE BEEN HERE A LONG TIME, ALMOST
24 60 YEARS. AND WHAT I COME TO TELL YOU, THE BIBLE SAYS MY
25 PEOPLE PERISHED FOR THE LACK OF KNOWLEDGE. WHAT HE MEANS BY



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1 THAT, WHAT Y'ALL DOING, WE NEED THAT TRAUMA CENTER BECAUSE
2 IT'S TOO MANY PEOPLE GETTING KILLED AND REMEMBER ONE THING.
3 ALL Y'ALL SITTING ON THIS PANEL RIGHT NOW, IF YOU CLOSE THAT
4 TRAUMA CENTER, ALL OF Y'ALL, YOU MIGHT BE IN THIS AREA OR YOUR
5 GRANDKIDS OR YOUR CHILDREN MIGHT BE GOING HOME, YOU DON'T KNOW
6 WHERE YOU MIGHT BE AT, AND IF YOU CLOSE THAT TRAUMA CENTER,
7 ALL OF Y'ALL MAY DIE. THINK ABOUT IT. THINK ABOUT IT. ALL OF
8 Y'ALL. I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE PEOPLE HERE BUT I'M TALKING
9 ABOUT ALL OF Y'ALL SITTING UP THERE. Y'ALL MIGHT BE IN HERE,
10 YOU MIGHT GO HOME TODAY AND MIGHT HAVE A ACCIDENT OR YOU MIGHT
11 GET SHOT OR ANYTHING MIGHT HAPPEN TO YOU. AND IF YOU CLOSE
12 THAT TRAUMA CENTER, Y'ALL MIGHT DIE BUT YOU KNOW, WE ALL A
13 CHILD OF GOD AND GOD IS NOT PLAYING. HE WANTS TO SAVE LIVES
14 BECAUSE HE SAID, "I COME AND GAVE LIFE MORE ABUNDANTLY." HE
15 DON'T WANT TO KILL NOBODY. SEE, THAT'S THE DEVIL'S WORK. THE
16 DEVIL WANT TO KILL YOU BUT GOD WANTS YOU TO LIVE AND LIVE A
17 LONG TIME. SO IF YOU CLOSE THAT TRAUMA CENTER, ALL OF Y'ALL
18 MIGHT GET SHOT. Y'ALL MIGHT GET SHOW, ONE OF Y'ALL WHEN Y'ALL
19 LEAVE HERE. YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU MAY BE AT. YOU MIGHT BE
20 ON A FREEWAY, YOU MAY BE IN A ACCIDENT. YOU KNOW WHAT I'M
21 SAYING? YOU MIGHT BE ANYWHERE IN THIS VICINITY AND YOU MIGHT
22 HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, BECAUSE THAT'S
23 THE CLOSEST PLACE COULD HELP YOU. YOU MAY NOT HAVE TIME TO GO
24 WAY DOWNTOWN NOWHERE. BUT I'M TELLING YOU, THINK ABOUT WHAT
25 YOU'RE DOING BECAUSE, SEE, YOU GOT TO PAY FOR IT BECAUSE, SEE,



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1 WE ALL THE CHILD OF GOD, WE ALL GOT TO LAY BACK AND GO TO
2 SLEEP.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. THANK YOU.

5

6 **PATRICIA VICTORY:** YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING? THINK ABOUT
7 IT. [APPLAUSE]

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. MA'AM, BEFORE YOU GO, KARIMU MCNEAL,
10 RICHARD JOHNSON. RICHARD, IF YOU'D JOIN US IN LINE. SHARON
11 RETTIC. THANK YOU. YES, MA'AM.

12

13 **RENEE ROCHELLE:** HI. MY NAME IS RENEE ROCHELLE AND I GREW UP
14 HERE IN THE COMMUNITY. I WAS A FORMER PATIENT OF KING DREW
15 TRAUMA. I WAS INVOLVED IN A AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT ON MY WAY TO
16 WORK, ME AND MY SON. THE FIRE DEPARTMENT HAD TO CUT ME OUT OF
17 MY CAR. THE POSITION THAT I WAS IN WAS A SITTING POSITION.
18 THAT WAS THE POSITION I HAD TO BE PUT IN THE AMBULANCE AND
19 TAKEN TO THE NEAREST HOSPITAL, WHICH WAS KING DREW TRAUMA. THE
20 FAST THINKING OF THE ORTHOPEDIC DOCTORS, EVERYTHING THAT I
21 RECEIVED THERE, MY SON AND MYSELF, WAS FABULOUS. I AM WALKING
22 TODAY BECAUSE OF THE WORK THERE AT KING DREW. [APPLAUSE]

23

24 **RENEE ROCHELLE:** I WOULD LIKE FOR YOU ALL TO REALLY TAKE TO
25 HEART WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING TO YOU, THAT WE WANT THE



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1 TRAUMA CENTER OPEN. THAT HOSPITAL WAS ERECTED AFTER THE WATTS
2 RIOTS. ONE OF THE PROBLEMS BACK THEN WAS THAT BABIES WERE
3 DYING ON THE WAY TO THE HOSPITALS BECAUSE WE DIDN'T HAVE A
4 HOSPITAL IN OUR COMMUNITY. WITH THE THREAT OF TERRORISM, I
5 DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE SHUTTING DOWN ANY OF THESE
6 FACILITIES, TRAUMA, EMERGENCIES. I MEAN, IT'S LIKE WE'RE GOING
7 BACKWARDS. PLEASE, PLEASE KEEP THE TRAUMA CENTER OPEN.

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

10

11 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YES, SIR.

12

13 **NORM SWIRIN:** HI. MY NAME IS NORM SWIRIN AND I WANT TO THANK
14 YOU ALL FOR KEEPING THIS MEETING GOING THIS LONG. A LOT OF US
15 HAVE BEEN HERE ALL DAY BECAUSE WE GIVE A RAT'S BEHIND ABOUT
16 WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE COMMUNITY. I WANT TO MAKE A COUPLE OF
17 FEW COMMENTS IN PARTICULAR, THOUGH. MR. YAROSLAVSKY, I FIRST
18 MET YOU WHEN YOU WERE A CITY COUNCILMEN AND I LIKED YOU BACK
19 THEN. [INTERJECTIONS]

20

21 **NORM SWIRIN:** I MET YOU WHEN SOME LUNATIC SET FIRE TO A CHURCH
22 IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD AND I SHOWED UP TO JOIN THE COMMUNITY
23 ACTION GROUP. THIS WAS A LONG TIME AGO AND YOU WERE A GOOD GUY
24 THEN. I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT GUY FOR A LONG, LONG TIME. [
25 APPLAUSE]



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1

2 **NORM SWIRIN:** YOU WALKED OUT OF HERE WHEN THE COMPTON FIRE
3 CHIEF WAS GIVING TESTIMONY. THAT SHOWS GREAT DISRESPECT. I
4 DIDN'T LIKE IT AT ALL. WHEN THE NURSE ASKED YOU TO GIVE HER AN
5 ANSWER TO A QUESTION, YOU TOLD HER YOU WOULD NOT. I STILL WANT
6 THAT ONE WORKED OUT IN THE PRESS. AND I HAVE A QUESTION FOR
7 ALL OF YOU. CAN ANY OF YOU GUESS WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN THE
8 PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY FIND THAT YOU HAVE ALREADY REACHED
9 YOUR DECISION AND THAT ALL WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED HERE TODAY IS
10 TO SIT AND TO PARAPHRASE THE LYRIC OF A GOOD OLD SONG, SPIT IN
11 THE WIND? THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

12

13 **CARMEN TAYLOR:** GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS CARMEN TAYLOR. I'M THE
14 MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS FOR WLCAC AND
15 I'M NOT HERE TO REALLY APPEAL TO ANY TYPE OF PASSION BECAUSE
16 I, TOO, BELIEVE THAT YOU CAME HERE WITH YOUR MOTIONS PREPARED
17 TO MOVE TO CLOSE THE TRAUMA CENTER, THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN A
18 DONE DEAL. MY QUESTION IS, BECAUSE, SEE, ALL OF THIS IS HARD
19 TO-- YOU KNOW, IT'S HARD TO UNDERSTAND FOR AN INTELLIGENT
20 PERSON AND SEE, WHEN YOU'RE TRYING TO PUT TOGETHER RESEARCH,
21 IT'S VERY DIFFICULT WHEN YOU HAVE SO MANY CONTRADICTIONARY PIECES
22 OF INFORMATION. SO, DR. GARTHWAITE, I JUST HAVE ONE QUESTION
23 AND THIS HAS STUMPED ME. SENATOR KERRY, ONE OF THE THINGS THAT
24 HE WAS-- BEEN DOING WAS THAT-- WE KEPT ACCUSING HIM OF FLIP-
25 FLOPPING. LESS THAN SIX MONTHS AGO, YOU SAID THAT \$466,000 WAS



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1 ENTIRELY TOO MUCH MONEY TO BRING IN A CONSULTANT TO TURN
2 AROUND THIS HOSPITAL. BUT NOW WE HAVE NAVIGANT AT THE TUNE OF-
3 - YES, YOU DID. YEAH, YOU DID. I HAVE THE ARTICLE WITH ME.
4 \$13.2 MILLION. \$13.2 MILLION. AND I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THAT SO
5 IF YOU HAVEN'T ADDRESSED ANYONE'S QUESTIONS HERE THIS EVENING
6 THAT I CAN REMEMBER. SO IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND, IF YOU WOULD SO
7 KINDLY ANSWER THAT QUESTION FOR ME, I'D APPRECIATE IT.

8

9 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** WE'RE HERE TO TAKE COMMUNITY INPUT AND
10 WE'LL BE RESPONDING TO ALL THESE TESTIMONIES IN... [
11 INTERJECTIONS]

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

14

15 **SUP. BURKE:** YOU KNOW, WELL, I JUST-- JUST A SECOND. JUST A
16 SECOND. I THINK THAT... [INTERJECTIONS]

17

18 **SUP. BURKE:** LET ME JUST BE VERY CLEAR IN TERMS OF THE CONTRACT
19 WITH NAVIGANT. C.M.S. REQUIRED US TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT
20 WITH A CONSULTANT. AND, IN ORDER TO KEEP THE \$200 MILLION FROM
21 MEDICAID, WE SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH C.M.S., THE FEDERAL
22 GOVERNMENT, THAT WE WOULD HIRE A CONSULTANT AND THAT THEY
23 WOULD ALSO APPROVE IT. SO WE PUT OUT AN R.F.P. NAVIGANT WAS
24 ACTUALLY THE LOWEST IN TERMS OF PRICE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE
25 SERVICES BECAUSE WHAT WAS REQUIRED IS THAT THERE BE A



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1 CONSULTANT WHO WOULD COME IN TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR A
2 NUMBER OF PHYSICIANS, 26 PHYSICIANS WITHIN THE HOSPITAL,
3 ASSESS THE HOSPITAL.

4

5 **CARMEN TAYLOR:** DID NOT-- DID NOT SUPERIOR CONSULTING GROUP
6 RESPOND TO YOUR R.F.P. TO THE TUNE OF \$466,000? THAT'S A LOT
7 LESS MONEY THAN 13.2.

8

9 **SUP. BURKE:** NO, OKAY, YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'VE GOT MIXED UP?

10

11 **CARMEN TAYLOR:** NO, I HAVE-- OKAY.

12

13 **SUP. BURKE:** THAT WAS-- WAIT A MINUTE. THAT WAS ONE PERSON...

14

15 **CARMEN TAYLOR:** WE'LL MOVE FORWARD FROM THERE. MY OTHER
16 QUESTION IS...

17

18 **SUP. BURKE:** THAT WAS ONE PERSON-- JUST A SECOND...

19

20 **CARMEN TAYLOR:** WHAT ELSE IS NOT INTELLIGENT IS HOW YOU CAN
21 SPEND \$2.9 MILLION TO BUILD A NEW TRAUMA CENTER AND \$13.2
22 MILLION TO TEAR ONE DOWN. WHAT KIND OF SENSE DOES THAT MAKE?!

23 [APPLAUSE]

24

25 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.



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1

2 **CARMEN TAYLOR:** THESE ARE QUESTIONS THAT INTELLIGENT PEOPLE
3 HAVE. WE'RE NOT APPEALING TO YOUR PASSION. THESE ARE
4 QUESTIONS, THESE ARE FACTS THAT WE WANT TO KNOW!

5

6 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

7

8 **CARMEN TAYLOR:** THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YES, MA'AM. GO AHEAD, MA'AM.

11

12 **CAROLYN FOWLER:** GREETINGS. MY NAME IS CAROLYN FOWLER. I'VE
13 LIVED IN THE SOUTH BAY YEAR FOR ABOUT 30 YEARS NOW. I GUESS--
14 I'M A MEMBER OF SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS, BLACK WOMEN'S FORUM,
15 L.A. COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE, NEW FRONTIERS DEMOCRATIC CLUB,
16 AND ALL OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE UNANIMOUSLY, UNANIMOUSLY
17 OPPOSED THE CLOSING OF THIS TRAUMA CENTER, NOT TO MENTION
18 EVERYBODY ELSE YOU'VE HEARD HERE. I GUESS MY QUESTION WOULD
19 BE, NUMBER ONE, HOW COULD FOUR OF YOU, WITH EVERYBODY ELSE IN
20 A DIFFERENT PLAIN, REALLY SIT THERE AND TRULY THINK "I'M ON
21 THE RIGHT SPOT, I'M IN THE RIGHT PLACE"? I'M HOPING, AND
22 CERTAINLY NOT BASED ON SOME OF THE BEHAVIORS I'VE SEEN,
23 PARTICULARLY FROM YOU, MR. ANTONOVICH, BELIEVE THAT WE'RE
24 GOING TO THINK THAT YOU CARE ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON. NINE OUT
25 OF 10 AMERICANS CANNOT BE LYING. YOU NEED TO RE-LOOK AT THE



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1 SITUATION. FIRST OF ALL, ANYTHING ELSE, YOU TALKED ABOUT YOUR
2 BIDS. YOU GET A SECOND OPINION. IF YOU GET TO A DOCTOR AND
3 THEY SAY MAJOR SURGERY, YOU GET A SECOND OPINION. JESSE
4 JACKSON, MY CONGRESSWOMAN HAS TAKEN THE LEAD WITH MANY OTHER
5 ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS. WHY ARE WE NOT
6 FIGURING OUT-- BECAUSE YOU TALKED ABOUT MANAGEMENT, MR.
7 ANTONOVICH. PEOPLE THINK IT'S MISMANAGEMENT. GOOD MANAGEMENT
8 LOOKS AT SOLUTIONS, NOT PROBLEMS, DOES PROBLEM SOLVING AND
9 WANTS TO FIGURE OUT HOW CAN THIS WORK. I CHALLENGE THIS BOARD
10 TO GET A RECOMMENDATION FROM DR. GARTHWAITE ON HOW THIS COULD
11 WORK, WORKING WITH SOME OF THE COMMUNITY LEADERS HERE.

12

13 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

14

15 **ROBERT COLE:** GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS ROBERT COLE. I'M CHAIR
16 OF ONE OF THE AREA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS AND I JUST WANT TO,
17 FIRST OF ALL, SAY THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE NURSES AND DOCTORS
18 AT KING WHO ARE OVERWORKED AND UNDERPAID. I JUST WANT TO SAY
19 THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

20

21 **ROBERT COLE:** ABOUT THREE OR FOUR WEEKS AGO, THE NEIGHBORHOOD
22 COUNCIL HELD THIS FORUM AND WE DISCUSSED SOME OF THE
23 ISSUES AT KING HOSPITAL. AND ONE OF THE ISSUES WE DISCUSSED
24 THAT WAS NEVER ADDRESSED WAS THAT, WHEN PROPOSITION B WAS
25 PASSED AND OVER \$200 MILLION WAS COLLECTED, WHY WAS THAT MONEY



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1 NOT USED TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES AT KING HOSPITAL? NO ONE HAS
2 TALKED ABOUT THAT. WE COULD HAVE USED THAT MONEY TO HIRE
3 SOMEONE OTHER THAN DR. GARTHWAITE OR MR. LEAF. THAT MONEY
4 COULD HAVE BEEN USED TO PAY THE NURSES MORE THAN WHAT THEY'RE
5 BEING PAID. BUT, NO, THERE WAS SOME DEAL-- BEHIND THE DEALS
6 MADE ABOUT KING HOSPITAL TO CLOSE IT. NOW, TODAY, WHAT I WANT
7 TO SAY TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IS THAT THIS IS NOT JUST
8 ABOUT THE HOSPITAL SAVING LIVES. THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE THAT
9 ARE TRAINED AT THAT HOSPITAL AND THEY GROW UP AND SAVE OTHER
10 LIVES. MY WIFE, WHO REPRESENTS MAYBE TWO PERCENT OF THE WOMEN
11 WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI WITH HER CREDENTIALS, TRAINED AT KING
12 HOSPITAL. MY RELATIVES ATTENDED SEVERAL SERVICES AT KING
13 HOSPITAL. THAT HOSPITAL HAS BEEN IN THIS COMMUNITY FOR MANY
14 YEARS AND YOU ARE TELLING US TODAY THAT YOU ARE TURNING YOUR
15 BACKS ON US. MANY OF THE PEOPLE ON THIS PANEL WE PUT IN
16 OFFICE, OUR TAXPAYERS DOLLARS PAY YOUR SALARIES. YOU TRICKED
17 US INTO GIVING YOU PROPOSITION B. YOU TOOK THE MONEY, YOU
18 LOANED DISNEY \$25 MILLION. WHY NOT GIVE THAT MONEY TO KING
19 HOSPITAL? IF YOU'VE GOT MONEY GIVE TO DISNEY, WHY NOT FIX THE
20 PROBLEMS OF THIS COMMUNITY? YOU ARE TURNING YOUR BACK ON US
21 AND WE WILL NOT FORGET THAT. AND PLEASE NOTE THAT, WHEN
22 ELECTION TIME COMES, WE WILL NOT BE THERE FOR YOU.

23

24 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. SIR.

25



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1 **R. W. AKILE:** MY NAME IS AKILE, AND THEY ALSO CALL ME QUANZA
2 MAN. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I WANT TO SAY HERE IS THAT I'VE
3 READ YOUR REPORT AND IT SEEMS TO ME THAT EXCUSES PLEASE THOSE
4 WHO MAKE THEM. PATERNALISM WAS A SLAP IN THE FACE IN THE PAST
5 AND IT'S A SLAP IN THE FACE NOW. THIS COMMUNITY IS THE HOME OF
6 _____ OR SELF-DETERMINATION. IT WAS AN ACT OF SELF-
7 DETERMINATION THAT BROUGHT THIS HOSPITAL INTO EXISTENCE IN THE
8 FIRST PLACE. WE KNOW THE PROBLEMS THAT EXIST HERE AND WE DO
9 HAVE THE EXPERTISE TO SOLVE THEM. THE FRUSTRATION WE EXPRESS
10 AND THAT YOU HEAR AND YOU'VE HEARD ALL DAY IS DUE TO THE FACT
11 THAT AN OUTSIDE PERSON HAS BEEN BROUGHT IN TO SOLVE OUR
12 PROBLEMS AS OPPOSED TO LETTING US SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS FOR
13 OURSELVES. HOW ABSURD. YOUR WHOLE APPROACH IS SUSPICIOUS. IF
14 WE WERE REAL OR IF YOU WERE REAL, RATHER, YOU WOULD HAVE SAID,
15 "WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO TO HELP SOLVE THE PROBLEMS AT KING
16 DREW?" CLOSURE OF OUR TRAUMA CENTER WOULD NOT BE AN OPTION.
17 EVERY HOSPITAL HAS PROBLEMS. SOLVING OF THOSE PROBLEMS ARE
18 PART OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HOSPITAL. AT NO TIME IS CLOSURE
19 OF A CRITICAL SEGMENT OF A HOSPITAL AN OPTION. WE NEED MORE
20 TRAUMA CENTERS, NOT LESS. THANK YOU.

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

23

24 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** YES, MA'AM.

25



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1 **KARIMU:** GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS KARIMU AND I'M PLEADING WITH
2 YOU TO PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE THE TRAUMA CENTER. I WOULD HAVE
3 DIED TWO YEARS AGO IF THE TRAUMA CENTER WAS NOT OPEN. MR.
4 YAROSLAVSKY, COULD YOU PLEASE PAY ATTENTION?

5

6 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I AM.

7

8 **KARIMU:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I-- I WAS ADMITTED INTO THE
9 TRAUMA CENTER AND THEY PROVIDED EXCELLENT CARE. AT THAT
10 PARTICULAR TIME, I WAS DIAGNOSED WITH COLON CANCER. I HAD A
11 TUMOR INSIDE OF ME THAT WAS AT LEAST 10 POUNDS. BECAUSE OF THE
12 MARTIN LUTHER KING DOCTORS AND STAFF, THEIR NURSES, THE
13 EXCELLENT CARE THAT I RECEIVED, I AM ALIVE TODAY. I CAN PULL
14 UP MY SHIRT AND SHOW YOU MY INCISION, IF YOU NEED TO SEE IT.
15 THAT HOSPITAL, PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE THAT HOSPITAL. I DID NOT
16 HAVE ANYWHERE ELSE TO GO BECAUSE I DID NOT HAVE ANY INSURANCE,
17 I COULD NOT AFFORD ANY INSURANCE. AND UNTIL YOU ARE IN THAT
18 POSITION, YOU REALLY DO NOT KNOW HOW WE FEEL. BUT IF YOU CLOSE
19 THE TRAUMA CENTER, YOU WILL KNOW HOW WE FEEL. THANK YOU. [
20 APPLAUSE]

21

22 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. YES, SIR. YOU, SIR, ARE THE LAST
23 MEMBER TO TESTIFY IN PUBLIC. I CALLED ALL THE NAMES. I HAVE NO
24 MORE SIGNED UP. [INTERJECTIONS]

25



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1 **SUP. BURKE:** GO RIGHT AHEAD. GO ON.

2

3 **RICHARD JOHNSON:** MY NAME IS RICHARD JOHNSON. I'M AN EDUCATOR
4 HERE IN L.A. I TEACH IN L.A. PUBLIC SCHOOLS. I'M ORIGINALLY
5 FROM THE MIDWEST, FROM MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA. I'VE LIVED KIND
6 OF AROUND THE COUNTRY. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT DISTURBS ME IS
7 THAT, WHEREVER I GO, I OFTENTIMES SEE BLACK FOLKS AND MANY
8 TIMES SEE HISPANICS AND POOR WHITE FOLKS GETTING SHORTCHANGED.
9 OKAY. I'M NOT HERE TO ASK YOU TO KEEP THIS TRAUMA CENTER OPEN.
10 I'M NOT HERE TO DO THAT. MY POSITION IS I'M TELLING YOU, I'VE
11 LOOKED AT SOME OF THE SILLY FACES AND EXPRESSIONS UP THERE
12 EARLIER AND I DON'T APPRECIATE WHAT I SAW, SO I'M TELLING YOU,
13 I'M TELLING YOU HOW I STAND ON THIS. EITHER YOU SERVE US OR WE
14 DON'T SERVE YOU. NOW, WHAT YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT THAT
15 IS THIS: YOU GOT PLENTY OF BLACK FOLKS IN THE MILITARY,
16 HISPANICS IN THE MILITARY, ET CETERA. IT WOULD BE MY POSITION
17 THAT, IF YOU CLOSE THIS TRAUMA CENTER, WE DON'T SERVE IN YOUR
18 MILITARY. WE'RE DONE. THE LAST ONE THAT YOU SIGNED UP
19 YESTERDAY, HOPEFULLY, THAT'S IT, BECAUSE OTHER THAN THAT, MY
20 POSITION IS WE NO LONGER SERVE Y'ALL BECAUSE, WHAT, YOU DON'T
21 SERVE US. GOOD DAY! [APPLAUSE]

22

23 **RONALD ANTWINE:** MY NAME IS RONALD ANTWINE, A.K.A. CARTOON AND
24 I'VE SAID THE SAME THING THAT I'M GOING TO SAY TONIGHT IN JUNE
25 OF THIS YEAR AT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. Y'ALL REMIND ME OF A



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1 PAROLE PRISON BOARD BECAUSE ONLY ONE OF YOU ALL BE PAYING
2 ATTENTION, THE REST OF Y'ALL GOT OTHER THINGS TO DO. IF
3 NOTHING ELSE WAS SAID TODAY, I THINK THERE IS NOTHING ELSE I
4 CAN ADD TO IT BUT I JUST WANT TO SAY TO MR. GARTHWAITE THE
5 SAME THING THAT I TOLD YOU WHEN YOU CAME AND DISRESPECTED OUR
6 COMMUNITY AT WOCAC IN THAT OPEN MEETING. YOU HAVE TAUGHT ME A
7 LESSON. YOU HAVE MADE ME FEEL THE SAME WAY THAT THE PEOPLE
8 THAT SUFFER FROM THE RESULTS OF THE ENRON SCANDAL HAS FELT.
9 ALL OF YOU UP HERE, YOU HAVE ALL TAUGHT ME A VALUABLE LESSON.
10 TODAY, I UNDERSTAND WHAT MY MOTHER AND MY FATHER AND EVERYBODY
11 ELSE FOUGHT FOR COMING FROM THE SOUTH. YOU MAKE ME REMEMBER
12 HOW THOSE KIDS IN ALABAMA HAD TO HAVE A NATIONAL GUARD ESCORT
13 THERE TO THAT COLLEGE. IT'S REAL SAD, MS. MOLINA. I WONDER HOW
14 YOU WOULD FIGHT IF WE WAS UP THERE TELLING YOU WE WERE GETTING
15 RID OF CINCO DE MAYO. I WONDER HOW YOU WOULD FEEL IF WE WAS
16 TRYING TO TAKE AWAY SOMETHING THAT HAS BECOME A PART OF YOUR
17 LIFE. I WAS HERE BEFORE THE HOSPITAL WAS HERE, I'M A FORMER
18 PATIENT, I'M A FORMER EMPLOYEE. MY OLDEST SON WAS BORN AT THAT
19 HOSPITAL. MY MOTHER DIED AT THAT HOSPITAL. I APPLAUDED THE
20 PHYSICIANS YESTERDAY WHEN THEY PULLED THE PLUG, MY HOME BOY
21 OFF THE LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEM, AND HE STARTED BREATHING ON HIS
22 OWN YESTERDAY. SATURDAY NIGHT, I WAS AT THE HOSPITAL. SATURDAY
23 NIGHT, I WAS AT THE HOSPITAL AND I WATCHED THEM PULL THE PLUG
24 ON MY AUNT AND SHE PASSED AWAY. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT THE FAMILY
25 SAID, SHE WAS BEYOND HUMAN AID. SEE, I'M FROM A COMMUNITY



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1 WHERE NOT ONE PERSON HAVE A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT, MR. GARTHWAITE.
2 NOT ONE PERSON GETS SHOT. I'M FROM A COMMUNITY WHERE, DUE TO
3 THE IGNORANCE AND THE STUFF THAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE, FIVE
4 AND SIX PEOPLE GET SHOT AT A TIME AND GUESS WHAT, THEY ALL
5 MAKE IT HERE! ONE OUT OF FIVE MAY DIE. THESE DOCTORS ARE
6 WORKING OVERTIME! HOW DO I KNOW? BECAUSE I BE IN THE EMERGENCY
7 ROOM RIGHT WITH THEM! HOW DO I KNOW? MR. GARTHWAITE, YOU LIED
8 TO US AT WLCAC AND I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT. YOU HAVE LIED ON
9 ALL YOUR REPORTS. WHEN I HEARD DR. WARD, DR. SMITH, BOTH DR.
10 SMITH COME UP AND THEY HAD PAPERWORK WITH STATISTICS BUT YOUR
11 PAPERWORK, WHEN THEY GET DOWN THERE TO WILSHIRE, THE NUMBERS
12 AND STUFF SEEMS TO CHANGE AND I TOLD YOU WAY BACK THEN, LIKE I
13 TELL YOU NOW, I'M JUST A PERSON FROM THE COMMUNITY. I'M
14 LEARNING AND I'M LISTENING AND ONE THING THAT I HAVE LEARNED
15 IS THAT THERE'S A NEW WORD THAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER, COLIN
16 POWELL EVEN USED IT TODAY AND THAT IS, "YOU SHOULD RESIGN." [
17 CHEERS AND APPLAUSE] [WHISTLES]

18

19 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** TO ALL OF YOU-- TO ALL OF YOU, IT'S BEEN A
20 LONG DAY FOR ALL OF YOU AND FOR ALL OF US AND I JUST TRULY
21 APPRECIATE YOUR PATIENCE AND CONTROL THIS EVENING AND
22 THROUGHOUT THE DAY. AND SO WE WANT TO SAY THANK YOU FOR YOUR
23 PARTICIPATION. WE WILL BE-- THE CHAIR WOULD ENTERTAIN A MOTION
24 TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND CONTINUE THE ITEM 'TIL
25 NOVEMBER 23RD.



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1

2 **CONGRESSWOMAN MAXINE WATERS:** SUPERVISOR, THANK YOU VERY, VERY
3 MUCH. THANK ALL OF YOU FOR STAYING AS LONG AS YOU HAVE.

4

5 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** BEFORE YOU START, MAXINE...

6

7 **CONGRESSWOMAN MAXINE WATERS:** I JUST WANT TO KNOW WHAT TIME
8 YOU'RE GOING TO BE TOMORROW.

9

10 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** 9:30.

11

12 **CONGRESSWOMAN MAXINE WATERS:** 9:30 TOMORROW. BEFORE-- ZEV, I
13 JUST WANT TO ASK ALL THE PEOPLE...

14

15 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I WILL. MAXINE, JUST WAIT ONE SECOND...

16

17 **CONGRESSWOMAN MAXINE WATERS:** ...TO BE THERE TOMORROW MORNING
18 AT 9:30 IT'S VERY IMPORTANT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, ZEV.

19

20 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** MR. CHAIRMAN, I'D ALSO LIKE TO ASK DR.
21 GARTHWAITE TO... [APPLAUSE] [CHANTING, STANDING OVATION FOR
22 CONGRESSWOMAN MAXINE WATERS] [INTERJECTIONS]

23

24 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** DR. GARTHWAITE, IF YOU COULD ALSO ON THE
25 23RD BE PREPARED WITH RESPONSES TO ANY OF THE WRITTEN



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1 MATERIALS AND ORAL COMMENTS THAT WE HEARD HERE TODAY. ALL
2 RIGHT. THAT WOULD BE PART OF-- INCORPORATED INTO YOUR MOTION.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** THE QUESTION, ALL IT WAS, DON'T EVERYBODY
5 GET EXCITED, WAS THAT PART OF THE ITEM ON THE 23RD AS IT
6 RELATES TO THE POTENTIAL CLOSURE OF THE TRAUMA UNIT HERE AT
7 KING, THAT DR. GARTHWAITE RESPONDS TO ALL THE ISSUES THAT WERE
8 RAISED HERE, WRITTEN RESPONSE, WRITTEN COMMENTS AS WELL ON THE
9 23RD. THAT'S WHAT THE AMENDMENT WAS. SO WE HAVE A MOTION
10 BEFORE US TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, CONTINUE THE ITEM WITH
11 A RESPONSE BACK ON THE ISSUES RAISED IN THIS BEILENSEN HEARING
12 TO THE 23RD OF NOVEMBER. IS THERE A SECOND?

13

14 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** SECOND.

15

16 **SUP. KNABE, CHAIR:** OKAY. IT'S BEEN MOVED AND SECONDED. ANY
17 FURTHER DISCUSSION? WITHOUT OBJECTION, SO ORDERED. AND AGAIN,
18 THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

19

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Jennifer A. Hines, Certified Shorthand Reporter Number 6029/RPR/CRR qualified in and for the State of California, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing transcript of recorded proceedings was taken on Tuesday, November 15th, 2004, at the time and place therein set forth and recorded by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, thereafter transcribed into typewriting under my direction and supervision;

And I hereby certify that the foregoing transcript of recorded proceedings is a full, true, and correct transcript of the recorded proceedings before the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

I further certify that I am neither counsel for nor related to any party to said action, nor in anywise interested in the outcome thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 29th day of November, 2004.

_____(Signature on file)_____
JENNIFER A. HINES CSR No. 6029/RPR/CRR